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Germans Stirred Up Over Jobs

Thousands Protest As Unemployment Rises to 4.8 Million

By Alan Cowell New York Times Service

BONN -- Inspired by the example of French demonstrators but without their passion or numbers, unemployed Germans staged protests across the land Thursday as the Federal Labor Office announced a postwar record of 4.8

million people on the dole lines.

The labor office put the unadjusted number of unemployed in January at 4,823,200 — an increase of 301,600 over the December figure, pushing joblessness as a proportion of the work force to 12.6 percent from 11.8 percent.

Ominously, Eastern Germany recorded much higher unemployment in January, with a rate of 21.1 percent — just over twice the 10.5 percent of the more populous and prosperous states of Western Ger-

The increase came despite over-all economic growth of about 2.5 percent annually, suggesting that while companies are prospering, they are cautions about incurring the cost of hiring new workers. Other government statistics released Thursday showed a fourth consecutive monthly fall in new orders for capital goods, indicating a possible

slowdown in investment plans.

Allowing for seasonal adjustments, reflecting traditional slowdowns in businesses such as construction in the winter, the Labor Office figures said unemployment in January had actually fallen by

But economists said it was too early to say whether this meant joblessness bad peaked, and some analysts said the trend indicated that February's figures would go yet higher.

Even the seasonally adjusted statistics brought scant political relief for Chancellor Helmut Kohl. liament for what the opposition So-cial Democrats called failed economic policies.

In political terms, it is the increase in overall unemployment rather than the seasonally adjusted

See GERMANY, Page 12



Israeli soldiers carrying a fellow soldier as part of a drill. They wore masks designed for protection against chemical or biological attack.

President Clinton greeting Prime Minister Tony Blair at the White House

on Thursday. Mr. Blair started a four-day visit to the United States.



Saddam Won't Be Target Of Attack, Clinton Vows U.S. Marines to Join Rapid Military Buildup in Gulf ish one (Page 4). And Mr. Clinton decided to send 2,000 U.S. Marines, now WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton joined with Prime Minister on navy ships in the Mediterranean.

Tony Blair of Britain on Thursday to begin mapping strategy for a possible military attack on Iraq but disavowed any notion that the Iraqi leader, Saddam Hussein, would be a specific target.

Mr. Clinton was asked at the start of a White House meeting with Mr. Blair if he might consider an attack on Mr.

The clamor to crush Saddam grows louder in the U.S. Page 4.

Saddam. The president replied: "That is not what the United Nations has authorized us to do. That is not what our immediate interest is about."

The strategy session with Mr. Blair came amid some of the strongest warnings yet from Russia, China and France that military might should not be used

Still, the U.S. aircraft carrier Independence sailed into the Gulf, joining two other American carriers and a Brittoward the Gulf, a defense official said. Among other developments:

• The U.S. State Department advised all Americans abroad to beware of 'random acts of violence' linked to tensions over Iraq. (Page 2)

• Israel said it reserved the right to defend itself against any Iraqi missile attack on the Israelis, rejecting a request from Washington that it use the same restraint now as it used during the 1991 Gulf War. (Page 4)

• The French foreign minister, Hubert

Vedrine, for the first time stated that France would not join in any military strike, but he agreed with the United States that Baghdad's latest offer on arms inspections was "not enough."

• President Boris Yeltsin said Russia

would not accept "under any circumstances" U.S. strikes against Iraq.

• The Chinese foreign minister, Qian Oichen, rebuffed a plea for support from Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in a telephone call. Speaking later on state-

run television, he said he told Mrs. Albright that any military strike would fail and might even make matters worse.

The president started the day with a prayer breakfast at which he spoke of "difficult decision we are facing now" because of Americans' concern
"that we not expose our children — if
we can help it — to the dangers of
chemical and hiological warfare."

Mr. Blair, on an official visit to the White House, praised Mr. Clinton's de-mand for unconditional access by United Nations weapons inspectors to Iraqi sites, and declared that unless Mr. Saddam "doesn't come back into line to let weapons inspectors in, then we will have to force him to do so.

Mr. Blair's spokesman said the two leaders' talks would center on logistical preparations for possible military action. "If it comes to force, then we have to be in a position to ensure that any use of force is carried out effectively," the

spokesman said.
Mr. Blair's aides said that Britain was

See IRAQ, Page 4

Starr Defends Inquiry: 'It's Law, Not Politics'

Prosecutor Takes Strongest Stance to Date

By Brian Knowlton International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON - The independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, offered on Thursday the strongest public defense yet of his investigation of President Bill Clinton, insisting that his motives were apolitical and adding, "We have made very significant progress."

There are those who view the law as way to do politics by other means." Mr. Starr said in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Several supporters of the president otably his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton - have depicted the Starr investigation as a weapon in the hands of rightist enemies of the president who have wanted for years to weaken or unseat him.

President Clinton issued a new denial Thursday of the allegations that he had a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern and clerk, and then sought to persuade her to lie about it in a sworn affidavit.

Answering a reporter's question at an appearance here with the visiting British prime minister, Tony Blair, Mr. Clinton said, "I have already denied the legal charges, strongly, and I do so again.

The Washington Post reported that Ms. Lewinsky had admitted, in a written "proffer" to Mr. Start's office, that she did have a sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton. But The Pust said prosecutors rejected the proffer because it contained confusing indications of what she would say about possible attempts by Mr. Clinion or others to urge her to deny such a relationship under oath. (Page 3)

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Blair stood side by side on Thursday, holding coffee cups as if to strike a relaxed pose, but the president appeared pained when asked

See CLINTON, Page 12

Asian Nations Warn Japan Its Influence Is on the Wane

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — Southeast Asian countries, voicing new concern about the region's economic and financial crisis, will tell Japan next week that it must hasten banking reforms and moves to stimulate its economy if it wants to make a more effective contribution to re-

Southeast Asian officials said Thursday that the unusually muscular diplomatic message from

The U.S. is nearer approval of new funds for IMF. Page 13.

ASEAN, the Association of Sonth East Asian Nations, carried an implicit warning that Japanese influence among its neighbors was in

danger of waning.

ASEAN's views will be conveyed by Anwar Ibrahim, the Malaysian deputy prime minister and finance minister, when he visits Tokyo. Malaysia currently chairs the group, which consists of Brunei, Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singa-pore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The officials said the message represented the collective position of ASEAN and would reinforce similar statements of dissatisfaction made recently by senior U.S. officials about what the U.S. trade representative, Charlene Barshefsky, said was an "absolutely inadequate" Japanese response to the regional crisis.

Japan's role is seen as vital be-cause it is by far the largest economy in Asia and has traditionally been the higgest source of investment, loans and aid as well as a

major trading parmer.
The core of ASEAN's concern, Southeast Asian officials said, is that Japan is not doing enough to open its markets and absorb more imports from the region. In addition, they want Tokyo to get its banks more constructively in-

See AEASN, Page 12

Window on an Old Epoch

Fossils From 'Springtime,' 600 Million Years Ago

By Kathy Sawyer
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Scientists have unearthed what appear to be the first fossils of complex animal ancestors dating from almost 600 million years ago, opening a window on a mysterious and crucial epoch in the history of life on Earth that many researchers thought would never be revealed.

Perhaps most stirring, the exquisitely preserved fossils - from a period in which a fossil record was not considered likely - include fragile animal embryos no bigger than grains of sand. These embryos were frozen forever in their earliest stages of growth and are revealed in three-dimensional precision down to the level of individual cells, researchers report.

There are also abundant marine algae and sponges — the oldest known representatives of any animal group alive

The discovery, which scientists hailed Wednesday as one of the most important evolutionary developments of this century, sent ripples of excitement through the paleontology com-

Many had been convinced that such an ancient time, presumably populated with very small, squishy, slithery creatures, could not have bequeathed modern science much of a fossil re-

Although they knew life must have existed in some form before 540 million years ago, researchers had found vir-

See ORIGINS, Page 12

AGENDA

Seoul Says It Can't Fulfill Nuclear Pact

the U.S. government that Seoul's fi- Korea, the key element of the 1994

South Korean officials have told tion of ouclear power plants in North nancial crisis has left it nnable to pay agreement that halted the North's nuits promised share for the construc-

Italy and U.S. in Dispute Over Plane's Route Italy said Thursday that the U.S. ican military officials insisted the

Marine surveillance plane that cnt a plane had kept to its designated flight ski-lift cable in the Italian Alps, killing path. U.S. officials vowed to cooper-20 people, was off course, but Amerate in the investigation. Page 6.

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A Fresh Look At Early Life

Two groups of researchers have shown that multicellular animals sponges, jellyfish and maybe more complex animals - had evolved by 570 million years ago, much earlier than had been thought.

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Page 4

Pages 8-9.

Pages 20-21.

PAGE TWO Brazil Fights Asia 'Domino Effect" INTERNATIONAL Page 4. The EU Role in Mideast Peace Page 11.

Opinina

Sports

High on Nagano Agenda: The Burnishing of Images Japan and World Sports Badly Need a Lift

By Kevin Sullivan and Amy Shipley

NAGANO - Amid high-tech wizardry and the echoes of an ancient culture, the 18th Winter Olympics open Saturday in a nation in need of a lift and a sporting world lonking for a new generation of heroes. Japan, suffering from its worst eco-

nomic recession since World War II, has spent a record \$13 billion to stage an Olympics that organizers hope will be an antidote to a deep national malaise. Instead of relentiess news about bankruptcies and corruption, Japan hopes television viewers around the world will see warm images of Japan's high-tech magic, effusive hospitality and cultural

"With all the bad news, the Japanese people are not so sure anymore what we have that we can be proud of," said Akira Saito, sports editor of the newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun. "Even though

this is only a sports event, the Japanese people have found something we can show to the world."

The international sports community, ton, is hoping Nagano will provide a celebration of athletics unspoiled by scandal. The sports world is hoping to repair its image, and shift public attention away from the drug-testing laboratories and hack to the competition after a drug scandal in January in-volving Chinese swimmers at the world championships in Australia.

The approximately 2,500 athletes who will compete are poised to give Japan and the rest of the world the inspirational, made-for-television drama they want. Legend-making is up for grabs in Nagano. Two telegenic American teenagers - Michelle Kwan and Tara Li-- along with Nicole Bobek have been dubbed the new U.S. Dream Team in figure skating, and some people in American skating believe they could

See GAMES, Page 20

Discontent Boils Over in Zimbabwe

Corruption Scandal Triggered Economic Crisis for Mugabe's Rule

By Lynne Duke Washington Post Service

HARARE, Zimbabwe - War veterans shouted down President Robert Mugabe during a speech and stormed his party headquarters to protest sus-pended disability pay. In Parliament, Mr. Mugabe's ruling party defied him. Disgruntled farm laborers marched to demand better working conditions, and urban workers angered by tax hikes shut down this capital city for a day.

All this discontent over the last year was just a prelude. Last mooth, this city was hit by its first serious wave of unrest in 18 years of independence, as thousands of rioters angered by yet another price hike for commeal, the staple food, caused such destruction and anarchy for

three days that the army was deployed to restore order. Five people were killed. As this formerly socialist nation un-

dergoes a difficult transition to a free market, Mr. Mugabe finds himself not only in battle with an economy out of control, but also with an increasingly restive population. Zimbabweans once saw him as father of the nation - he led the independence struggle against Britain — but now want to know what he has done for them lately.

Many people predict that if the government does not rein in the spiraling prices, a depreciating currency, rampant unemployment and creeping governmental corruption, then more unrest will likely follow.

In Chitungwiza, a suburb 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of the city center where a large shopping mall was picked clean in the January rioting, a young woman named Florence said more riots were needed to force the government into action. "We want it to happen again, because nothing has changed," she said.

In this nation of 12 million, peaceful during the years of socialist policies, which ended in the early 1990s, scenes of rioters looting stores and battling with the police would appear to represent instability. But this is a de facto one-party state in which Mr. Mugabe's party holds all but 3 of the 150 seats in Parliament.

The protesters "are not afraid anymore," said Sam Moyo of the Southern

See ZIMBABWE, Page 12

ATE DIRECT SE

Brazil Struggles to Defend Its Currency and Society

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

AO PAULO — Edmar Bacha, a Brazilian banker, has a new routine. Every afternoon he logs on to the Internet, reads the next day's issue of The Korea Herald and decides what he will tell the anxious executives from Merrill Lynch and Fidelity Investments who keep asking him where Brazil is headed.

I get very worried on days when the Koreans don't seem as worried as I am," he said. "Let's face it, if Korea or Indonesia goes and Japan is hit, then who cares about fiscal adjustme Brazil or anywhere else? Everyone's out of here and into United States Treasury bills."

Since the Asian crisis deepened in October, Brazil has dug in for what senior officials call "the moral equivalent of war" — a war to prevent Brazil from becoming "the next domino."

The stakes are huge. Brazil dwarfs Argentina and Mexico, constituting through its size and influence the key to a stable, prosperous Latin America. This is the world's fifth-largest country, whose population at 163 million is bigger than Russia's and whose industrial output surpasses China's.

Despite frequent bridling at U.S. domination of the post-Cold War world, Brazil has opened its economy to that world. Its transformation illustrates the free-market upheaval that brought 5 percent growth to Latin America in 1997 and a record \$45 billion in direct foreign investment. But with this shift, the country seems poised ou a knife's edge. In stark terms, Brazil poses the

exact too high a cost in social stability in societies that are among the most unequal in the world. The measures Brazil has taken to save its currency -- steps that have thus far satisfied the fast-moving global markets - are hurting the poor and the lower middle class. The Asian crisis has meant high interest rates and lost jobs. Many Brazilians who were buying cars or stoves on credit can no longer do so because efforts to attract international capital have pushed interest

question of whether global economic pressures

rates close to 40 percent a year. Tens of thousands of state employees have been dismissed, thousands of autoworkers idled. Brazil has shunned an agreement with the International Monetary Fund, which officials here equate with a loss of sovereignty, the failed IMF programs of the 1980s debt crisis and gennflection to the United States. The country is trying to bend to market forces while retaining its national identity and regional influence, in order

to join the global economy on its own terms. U.S. companies have poured money into Latin America, accounting for a hig share of the record \$16 hillion invested in Brazil last year, the record \$9 hillion in Argentina and the record \$12 billion in Mexico. Bell South paid \$2.5 billion just for the air over Sao Paulo - for which it has been



A camp in Sao Paulo state set up by a rural workers' movement for some of the many Brazilians made jobless by austerity measures.

granted the cellular-phone license

But international markets remain edgy about Brazil's deficits and a currency widely regarded as overvalued by about 15 percent.

"Brazil looks like a ripe case for financial risk," said Jeffrey Sachs, who heads the Harvard Institute for International Development. "It has an overvalned currency and a recession looming as it moves into an election year.

Brazil's government, however, is desperate to avoid a devaluation of its currency, the real, a step it equates with a return to hyperinflation. "People are suffering," Finance Minister Pedro Malan said, "but they would suffer more if we did not do whatever it takes to preserve the real plan. Our economic opening is irreversible.17

The unanswered question, however, is whether this opening will spread prosperity or concentrate it further. Surveys by IBGE, a Brazilian economic institute, suggest that the richest 20 percent of the Brazilian population still hold more than 60 percent of the nation's wealth, while the poorest 20 percent account for about 2 percent. In the United States, hy comparison, the richest 20 percent hold 42 percent of the national income, and the poorest 20 percent have 5 percent.

Out in the far west of Sao Paulo state, in an area known as the Pontal, red clouds of dust bluster across a wide and empty landscape. Cul-tivation is rare; the few head of cattle offer isolated signs of life. Landless peasants camp beneath flimsy shelters, a reminder of the strains that tear at the economy even of this most advanced Brazilian state.

'N A SCHOOL in the small town of Teodoro Sampaio sits Miriam Farius de Oliveira, who has just been dismissed from her \$200a-month job organizing the distribution of school lunches. She is one of the more than 30,000 state employees laid off as Brazil tries to shore up the currency against Asian buffeting. "I was told I had not passed the requisite exam for the joh." she said. "I had no warning."

Mrs. Farius de Oliveira, 46 and divorced, lives with her two children in a small rented house. Even before the crisis in Asia affected her, she had had a bad year. On Feb. 23, 1997, she was shot by men apparently hired by big landowners in the area. The bullet smashed three ribs.

The shonting took place at a nearby estate called Sao Domingos. It had been occupied hy peasants and by unemployed urban poor —
members of the Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra, or Landless Rural Workers Movement. Known as MST, it is the fastestgrowing movement of the poor and those newly dispossessed by the global economy.

Mrs. Farius de Oliveira had goue out to Sao

Domingos to support the occupation. She was

carrying the red flag of the movement when gunmen shot her.

The shift to an open economy in Brazil has come against a backdrop of extreme poverty that leaves armies of destitute migrants drifting across the country in search of a means to survive.

The rural workers' movement has become the main conduit for resentment toward these changes. It has organized 279 occupations over the past three years and now has illegal camps on 552,000 hectares (1.38 million acres). More than 51,000 families live in these camps - 21,000 of them arrived just last year,

The movement's leaders are vague about financial support but indicate that labor unions and the Roman Catholic Church are sources. Leftist parties and unions have grown weaker. But the movement has learned to use instant communications to advertise actions of police officers and landowners once protected by their regions' geographical remoteness

The social impact of free-market reform can be very negative at first," said Milton Seligman, president of the National Institute for Land Reform in Brasilia. "But whatever the MST think, socialism is dead. We're in the international dance hall now, and we have no choice but to dance. If we can confront the challenge, provide schools, land, health, Brazil can be a major international power within 15 years."

war Rejecte Israeli Jubilee In Disarray as **Director Quits Over Leaks**

By Serge Schmemann
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM - After the successive resignations of three directors of the committee planning Israel's 50th anniversary celebrations, the government minister in charge of the jubilee has also quit in a huff, leaving preparations in even deeper disarray a week before the festivities are to begin.

With the committee mired in constant political budgetary and personal squabbles, even the date of the formal inauguration of the inbilee year has been changed several times, and many events have been canceled or changed.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsay said Wednesday that he was quitting as the government's director of the anniversary celebration because of "very offensive stories" that he said had been leaked to the press by the prime minister's office.

He said he had contemplated quitting the government altogether, but pulled back after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a statement condemning the attacks in the press.

Mr. Katsav's resignation came a week and a half after Yitzhak Modai, a former finance minister, resigned as chairman of the Jubilee Celebrations Committee, charging that "Katsav took every opportunity to raise obstacles in order to get his name in the paper."

Mr. Katsav retorted, "He was capricious, and they warned me about his outbursts of anger.

With much of the schedule for the anniversary largely fixed, it seemed un-likely that the leadership shuffle would have much effect.

The original proposal for a budget of \$70 million has already been slashed by more than half, and only \$14 million has actually been allocated so far.

According to Jerusalem Report, a biweekly newsmagazine, many of the events originally envisioned for the year — including flying 50,000 young for-eign Jews to Israel, televising celebrations live around the world and holding conventions of Jewish Nobel Prize winners, lawyers and legislators abandoned for lack of funds.

Keep Alert Over Iraq, U.S. Advises Citizens

WASHINGTON - The State Department has advised all Americans abroad to beware of "random acts of violence" linked to tensions over hog, although it said it knew of no specific threats.

The "worldwide cantion" issued Thursday was similar to one from the department Nov. 19. during a previous standoff with Iraq over Baghdad's attempts to block UN arms inspections.

The warning then referred to "the general situation in the Middle East." but this one specifically cited Iraq's defiance of the United Nations and

Washington's dispatch of forces.
"While diplomatic options have not been exhausted, the government of Iraq continues to make provocative and confrontanonal statements," it said.

The announcement urged U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad to "exercise greater than usual caution" and said U.S. diplomatic posts worldwide were taking "appropriate security pre-

Haroun Tazieff, Volcano Expert, Dies

television viewers, died Mon- self," said former Prime Min- tion minister, said Thursday. day in a Paris clinic after a ister Laurent Fabius, who long illness, relatives said

and early environmentalist ural and technological diswho became a cahinet min- asters. ister, climbed many of the world's most dangerous volcanoes, defying toxic fumes reveal and help understand one of namre's most terrifying forces. He was one of the most popular personalities in France.

"He was as much a scientist as one of the century's

> Picase contact: London, Tel.:+44 171 420 0348 Fax :+44 171 420 0338

> or your local IHT office

ence Mr. Tazietr's talent as a Prench island of Guadeloupe. Priday of a cerebral bemor-

took Mr. Tazieff in his cabinet in 1984 as secretary of

Prime Minister Lionel Jospin recalled the "volcanic temper" of Mr. Tazieff, who and deadly rains of lava to once caused a stir hy forecasting that France would be hit by a major earthquake. It

has yet to happen.
An iconoclast, Mr. Tazieff cast doubts on global warm-

He clashed in 1976 with great adventurers," President Claude Allegre, a scientist Jacques Chirac said. He said who wanted 75,000 villagers Mr. Tazieff had virtually in- evacuated from the slopes of vented vulcanology - a sci- the Soufriere volcano on the

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All Valentine's Day Messages

will be entered into our

FREE PRIZE DRAW Place your ad in our special heading on February 14 th VALENTINE'S DAY MESSAGES

PARIS - Haroun Tazieff, storyteller made familiar to Mr. Tazieff said there was no rhage in Boston, where he 83, the French volcano expert the public.

"Everything be learned streams made crupting volation and discovered, he offered to canoes familiar to millions of all rather than keep it to him-

Poland. His father, a Russian, died while he was an infant, Mr. Tazieff, an adventurer state for the prevention of nat- and he went with his Polish mother first to Saint Petershurg and then to Belgium, where he studied geology and agriculture before going to work in France.

After World War II, he moved to Africa to work in mining. It was while he was an Takahashi, 87, a legendary there that he first witnessed a volcanic eruption. 'To capture the beauty of

Mr. Tazieff was born in

an eruption you would need to Aomori, northern Jobs a van Gogh," he said. To bring it to a wider audience, Mr. Takabashi, wh he became one of he first people to film eruptions close up, in "Les Rendezvous du Devil," in the 1950s.

Richard Cassilly, 70, Tenor With Big Voice NEW YORK (NYT) -

The American tenor Richard Cassilly, 70, who was a main-

with a bright ping on the top notes. He was best known for his portrayals of the Wagnheldentenor roles, Tristan, Siegmund and Tannhauser, as well as other dramatic parts that require vocal heft and stamina.

Chikuzan Takahashi, 87, Master of Tsugaru Lute

master player of the Tsugaru shamisen, died Thursday of larynx cancer at a hospital in Aomori, northern Japan, a

Mr. Takahashi, whose real name was Sadazo Takahashi. lost his eyesight as an infant after contracting measles. He Diable," or "Dates With the started playing the instruthree-stringed ment, a three-stringed plucked lute unique to the Tsngaru region of northern Japan, at the age of 15.

He rose to prominence for his shamisen melodies played as accompaniment to folk stay in the heldentenor rep- songs, riding a boom in the ertory in opera houses around popularity of such music after the world for 30 years, died World War II.



TRAVEL UPDATE

Crete Airport Closed

· ATHENS (AP) - Hundreds of farmers blocked major roadways and an airdown Greece's transportation system.

Olympic Airways, the national car-rier, was forced to cancel flights to the city of Iraklion after farmers occupied the international airport there. They announced they would keep the airport closed until Friday.

Main highways in northern and ceutral Greece were also blocked as part of weeklong farmers' protest demanding more subsidies and lower fuel prices.

U.S. Low-Fare Flights

WASHINGTON (WP) - US Airways Inc. has unveiled plans for Met-

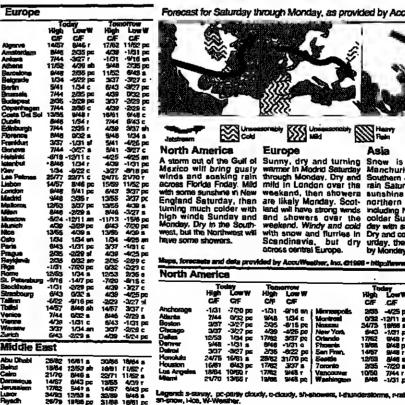
carrier is banking on as its answer to Southwest Airlines and Delta Express in the eastern United States.

robot, a low-cost ab service that the

from Baltimore-Washington International Airport on June 1 with bargainfare service to Cleveland; Fort Landerdale, Florida; Providence, Rhode Island, and Manchester, New Hamp-

Fiji's hotels and national airline are trying to hold down prices and are seeking government help to shield the tourism industry from the effects of the Asian economic crisis. The Fiji Hotel Association announced recently that its members had agreed to freeze accommodation rates for the rest of this

WEATHER



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(APYICOLIZE)

Israeli Jubilee Starr Rejects Immunity Deal for Lewinsky Director Quits Over Leaks

By Serge Schmemann

TERUSALEM - After the succe e resignations of three directors, committee bigmine [2136]? Afternative Celebrations, the good and minister in charge of the long int and unit in a haff, leaving he methods in even deeper disarray are the festivities are to begin

With the communer mired income political, budgetar, and perge squabbles, even the date of the fore being properties of the jubilet year large. guantes several times, and many to changed several times, and many been canceled or changed Tomism Minister Moshe Katsa consectly that he was quining as account because of ven office Mortes" that he said had been leaded

press by the prime minister; off. He said he had contemplated que the government altogether but he after Prime Minister Beige Pentanyahu issued a siatemen a maning the attacks in the press week and a half after Yitzhak Mokmitter finance minister lesigne Chateman of the Jubilee Celebra Committee, charging that "Kattare SACEA, OLDOLINGIA, 10 13125 Operation to get his name in the pape.

Mr. Katsay retorted, "He as: warned me about With much of the schedule latthat the indensity should be ere much effect

The original proposal for a budge million has already been slude than built, and only \$14 miles, Acres 127 to lettocert Report to te remittigant min d centaria in any second for they . 20 . . · · Volue? Jews to be and the North total Take on a sing the word and hole ta tawy are the log same - w

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Carpains

of what goes on in the president's suite.

grand jury on what amounts to a guided tour of the West Wing, as current and former officials were asked about the layout of offices, the location of each door, who worked there, what access they had and what could be seen in the Oval Office and adjoining study. Mr. Starr's staff wants "to establish that it would be possible for the president to be alone with her and to show it also would be unusual for him to be alone with her," said one person who has talked to investigators.

By Susan Schmidt and Peter Baker

WASHINGTON — The independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, has rejected a proposed cooperation agreement from Monica Lewinsky's lawyers and has given them until the end of the week to make the former White House intern available for questioning or let her face possible prosecution, according to sources with knowledge of the investigation.
Prosecutors decided the written state-

ment from Ms. Lewinsky was not solid enough to form the hasis of an agreement because it contained inconsistencies and contradictions. Ms. Lewinsky acknowledged having had a sexual relationship with President Bill Clinton in the statement, the sources said, but she gave a muddled account of whether she was urged to lie about that relationship to lawyers in the Paula Jones sexual har-

Ms. Lewinsky's lawyer, William Ginsburg, submitted the statement — a spelling out what she would testify to if given an immunity deal or plea bargain - late Monday and left with his client for California the next morning because Ms. Lewinsky wanted to see her father. It was the first time in protracted talks between the two sides that any proposed statement has been put in writing. Mr. Starr's office notified Mr. Gins-

hurg late Wednesday that the statement alone was unacceptable. Prosecutors told him they would like to interview Ms. Lewinsky themselves to get her story. They have asked that she submit to questioning early next week, the sources

[Mr. Ginsburg declined to comment on reports of the rejection, saying it would be irresponsible to talk about negotiations with Mr. Starr's office, The Associated Press reported. But he added, "If Judge Starr's object of this whole investigation is to net Monica Lewinsky in a conviction and jail time, then we have to look at bow our tax dollars are being spent."]
Mr. Ginsburg made a detailed oral

presentation early last week to prosecutors in his effort to get immunity for his client in exchange for her testimony. That statement contained more information than Ms. Lewinsky's written recollections, according to sources familiar with the statement, and conflicted with it in some areas.

Mr. Starr is investigating whether Mr. Clinton and his close friend Vernon Jordan Jr. urged the 24-year-old Ms. Lewinsky to conceal a sexual relationship with the president in a sworn affidavit last month, lining np a public relations job for her in New York as an inducement to keep quiet.

In her statement, sources said, Ms. Lewinsky asserted that she was not urged to lie to Mrs. Jones's lawyers, but was told to tell a certain version of events one that did not actually happen.

Ms. Lewinsky did not discuss the origins of one of the crucial pieces of evidence in the investigation — the so-called talking points she gave to Linda Tripp, the onetime friend who secretly tape-recorded her conversations about Mr. Clinton and Mr. Jordan. Sources said that Mr. Ginsburg had told prosecutors that Ms. Lewinsky was prepared to provide a full version of events including the origins of the talking points - if an agreement was concluded based on her statement.

Ms. Lewinsky gave the three-page talking points document to Ms. Tripp on Jan. 14 in annicipation of Ms. Tripp's own deposition in the Jones case. One page of the document that has surfaced publicly urged Ms. Tripp to change the story she had already told a reporter about seeing another. White House aide outside the Oval Office, her makeup smeared and clothing askew and asserting that the president had just made a pass at her.

Individuals who have spoken to Ms. Tripp — who went to prosecutors last month with her tape recordings - have said the other pages of the talking points discuss how Ms. Tripp should deny any knowledge that Ms. Lewinsky had any sexual relationship with the president.

New details also emerged Wednesday about Ms. Lewinsky's three dozen visits to the White House after she left her job there in April 1996 for a position in the

Pentagon press office.

A source with knowledge of Secret Service entry and exit logs said she visited the White House 10 to 12 times in the latter half of last year. Six to eight of those visits were in late October, November and December, a period when she was worried about having to testify in the Jones suit and was seeking a job in New York.

During his own deposition Jan. 17 with Mrs. Jones's lawyers, Mr. Clinton denied having had a sexual relationship of any nature with Ms. Lewinsky, sources said He also denied having been alone with her during her visits to the White House or having met with her any time after Christmas. Sources have told The Washington Post that Mr. Clinton and Lewinsky met on Dec. 28 at the White House.

Mr. Starr's decision to reject the proffer may reflect confidence in the rest of the case he is building. In recent days, his office has moved to find witnesses who may have seen Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky together, including White House valets and Secret Service agents.

Prosecutors brought one valet, Bayani Nelvis, to the grand jury Wednesday for the second time. Mr. Nelvis works in the tiny kitchen-pantry just off the Oval Office and has a firsthand view of much

During more than a week of testimony, Starr prosecutors have been taking the



A White House steward, Bayani Nelvis, in cap, leaving a Washington court where he testified to a grand jury.

Reporting on the Scandal: A Case Study

Paper's Fact-Checking Suffers in Scramble With Internet and Cable TV

By Howard Kurtz Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — A White House spokesman, Joe Lockhart, got the call from a Wall Street Journal reporter shortly before 4 P.M.

Did Mr. Lockhart have any comment on the newspaper's information that a White Honse steward, Bayani Nelvis, had told a federal grand jury he had seen President Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky alone in a study next to the Oval

Mr. Lockhart said he would have to check, hat moments later the reporter, Glenn Simpson, told him that the story had already been posted on the Journal's paper put out the story on its wire service while Alan Murray, its Washington hureau chief, was talking about it on CNBC, the Journal's new television partner.

The normal rules of checking or getting a response to a story seem to have given way to the technology of the In-

interview later. Mr. Murray replied, Mr. Nelvis had told "Secret Service per-The White Honse has made it quite clear that they are not going to provide information on this sort of thing." He added, "We had our information solid," so "we didn't see any reason to wait."

Within 90 minntes, however, Mr. Nelvis's lawyer, Joseph Small Jr., had put out a statement calling The Wall Street Journal's report relating to the grand jury testimony "absolutely false and irresponsible." Efforts by The Washington Post to confirm the report brought strong denials from several sources close to the investigation, who said no such testimony had been given hy Mr. Nelvis.

The Weh story, hy Mr. Simpson and World Wide Weh site. What's more, the another Journal reporter, Brian Duffy, was attributed to two individuals "familiar" with Mr. Nelvis's testimony.

"We continue to believe our report is correct," the Journal's managing editor, Paul Steiger, said.

In a subsequent posting, the Journal softened its story by deleting the assertion

sonnel" about the alleged encounter The lightning-quick sequence under-

scored the increasing velocity of the news cycle, particularly during the latest White House scandal. In contrast to the days of the Watergate scandal 25 years ago, when news was made once or twice a day, newspapers and magazines find themselves in a round-the-clock environment in which they can move as quickly as CNN.

Mr. Duffy called the newspaper's contacts with the White House 'unfortunate timing," saying: "We tried to get a response, and things were moving so quickly that they didn't get back to us in time. Ideally, it's not the way you'd want to do this. We were sort of scram-

Why would the Journal rush to tell the world about a supposed exclusive that it could have simply put in the next morning's newspaper?

We heard footsteps from at least one other news organization and just didn't ternet and the competitive pressure of that Mr. Nelvis had made the allegations think it was going to hold in this crazy getting it first," Mr. Lockhart said in an to the grand jury. Instead, the story said cycle we're in," Mr. Duffy said.

Media Seek End to Secrecy in Jones Case

job offer in band.

By David Stout New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Lawyers for The New York Times and several other news organizations have moved to set aside or modify a far-reaching secrecy order imposed by the judge presiding over the sexual-harassment suit against President Bill Clinton.

The motion was filed Wednesday before U.S. District Indge Susan Wehber Wright in Little Rock, Arkansas. Judge Wright is hearing the suit brought by Paula Jones, who contends that Mr. Clinton made a crude sexual proposal to her in a Little Rock hotel room in May 1991, when she was a state clerical employee and he was governor of Arkansas.

"This is a case of very significant and legitimate public interest," Nancy Nielsen, a spokeswoman for The Times, said Wednesday. "In a case like this, where there are leaks every day from most quarters, the public should be entitled to hear first hand from all par-

Judge Wright imposed the secrecy order last October in an effort to squelch increasingly lurid publicity about the lawsuit, which from its inception four years ago has created a blend of legal ssues, politics and off-color jokes. The judge sealed documents relating to pretrial discovery and ordered lawyers not to talk about the case.

Lawyers for The Times and the other news organizations argued that the judge's order had not worked and had poena she received in the Paula Jones

The motion asks Judge Wright to lift the ban on parties and lawyers talking about the case and to allow access to

speculation. Joining the motion were the ABC, NBC and CBS television networks, CNN, Time magazine, The As-lawyers, Ms. Nielsen said that it was sociated Press, USA Today and News- because, as a general principle, "the people should be entitled to know what's going on in a public court."

The case is to go to trial May 27, but Mr. Clinton's lawyers have asked for it to be advanced to March 23.

But Did It Change Minds? Articulate, Attractive Tucker Made Impact they killed. Most have families who

Execution Stirs Emotion,

By Sam Howe Verhovek New York Times Service

HUNTSVILLE, Texas - Not since 1977, when a Utah firing squad shot Gary Gilmore, the first prisoner put to death after the Snpreme Court allowed resumption of capital punishment in the United States, has so much attennon been focused on an execu-

Bnt now that Texas has executed Karla Faye Tucker, a kindly looking, born-again Christian, despite pleas for mercy from around the world, the most significant question is not really why she commanded all the publicity but whether that execution bas done anything to change the dynamics of the nation's debate over the death pen-

Opponents of capital punishment hope so. Many said that the execution of Ms. Tucker, a pickax killer who bad become a virtual guest in American living rooms in recent days, had put a particularly human face on those condemned to death, and predicted that it would galvanize people like Jennifer Morgan, a 25-year-old accountant in

"Before this, I was for the death penalty," said Ms. Morgan, one of dozens of people interviewed around the country Wednesday about their reaction to the Tucker execution, at a state prison here on Tuesday night. "But when you come to know someone through these television shows, it makes you think: Is that what they deserve?"

Death penalty supporters offered an opposing assessment. The state's resolve to see the sentence through, many said, marked an important moment reflecting a willingness to get serions about actually carrying out the death penalty in a country where only a small fraction of those condemned to die are in fact executed.

The execution sent a powerful message, said Dianne Clements, president of Justice for All, a victims' rights group hased in Honston.

"Regardless of your gender," she said, "those who are convicted and given that punishment can expect that punishment to be carried out."

There was certainly a third school of thought: that Ms. Tucker's execution was simply the latest media spectacle and that, with the nation's television audience simply moving on to the next hig event, it would have no great lasting significance.

Still, Ms. Tucker, the first woman executed in Texas since the Civil War. was far different from most prisoners facing death. Through a barrage of television interviews in recent weeks, have concluded judgments about the e clearly managed to humanize herself before America. "The real question we should ask authority."

ourselves is why so many people saw Tucker's humanity but refuse to see it like Tucker. Most come to regret that

love them. Many find religion. Many are articulate. Some are even physically attractive."

But, Mr. Dow argued, Ms. Tucker had five characteristics that combined to make her a media sensation.

'She was a woman, white, attractive, articulate and a Christian," he said. "A lot of people on death row have three of those characteristics; some have four. But very few have all five, and I simply don't see another case commanding this amount of at-

The question of whether women should be executed as readily as men will arise again soon. On March 30, Florida is to execute Judi Buenoano, 54, convicted of poisoning ber bus-

The real question we should ask ourselves is why so many people saw Tucker's humanity but refuse to see it in others. Because the truth is that almost all execution victims are like Tucker.'

band, drowning her handicapped son and plotting to hlow up her boyfriend. Like Ms. Tucker, Ms. Buenoano says she is a bom-again Christian.

And on April 20, Texas plans to execute 24-year-old Erica Sheppard, a mother of three, convicted of repeatedly stabbing a woman whose car she wanted to steal, then finishing the murder by bashing the victim with a 10-pound statue of a mother and

Ms. Sheppard has waived all appeals and asked to be executed. For Governor George W. Bush,

who turned down Ms. Tucker's 11thhour plea for a reprieve, the Sheppard case added a troubling racial dynamic to the already difficult decision be faced with Ms. Tucker. Had he supported elemency for her.

he almost certainly would have faced criticism for sparing a white woman while the execution of Ms. Sheppard, who is hlack, proceeded.

Governor Bush, explaining his decision to deny a reprieve, acknowledged that many people had urged him to act on behalf of Ms. Tucker because of the powerful religious conversion she said she underwent in prison.

But, explained the governor, "I heart and soul of an individual on death row are best left to a higher

For all the debate that Ms. Tucker's case prompted about executing womin others," said David Dow, a Uni- en, females make up less than 2 perversity of Houston law professor who cent of the 3,365 on death rows around

has represented more than 20 death the nation. For opponents of the death row prisoners. "Because the truth is penalty, a major issue is whether the that almost all execution victims are sympathy she engendered is of any use to all the men on death row.

Counsel's Inquiry Points Finger at Intern's First Lawyer

By John Mintz

Washington Post Service Monica Lewinsky, say that the delay in

formally filing ber affidavit denying a sexual relationship with President Bill Clinton was not related to efforts by Mr. Clinton's friend Vernon Jordan Jr. to Ms. Lewinsky gave her affidavit to Mr. Carter on Jan. 7, but it was not filed

rectors. Mr. Jordan also arranged Mr. Carter's legal representation of Ms. The independent counsel, Kenneth Starr, has been pursuing the possibility that Ms. Lewinsky withheld formally

find Ms. Lewinsky a job in New York. affidavit was a technical formality in no until Jan. 16. In the interim, she was Mrs. Jones's attorneys about the con-offered a job with Revion, following an tents of Ms. Lewinsky's affidavit iminterview arranged by Mr. Jordan, a member of the company's board of di-

filing the affidavit, in response to a sub-

York job came through, according to under the attorney-client privilege and sources close to the investigation. That thus cannot be disclosed, the sources theory, the sources have said, grew out said. WASHINGTON - Lawyers for of the close juxtaposinon of these Francis Carter, the attorney first hired by events, and comments Ms. Lewinsky reportedly made about her desire to hold off filing the affidavit until she had the

> Wednesday that the delay in filing the way connected to Ms. Lewinsky's job hunt. They said that Mr. Carter notified Mrs. Jones's attorneys about the conmediately after she made her statement denying an affair with Mr. Clinton.

Mr. Carter is preparing to fight a snbpoena directed at him by Mr. Starr's vestigators, the sources said. On Jan. 22, Mr. Starr's office subpoenaed Mr. Carter's telephone message slips and other notes reflecting Mr. Carter's con-versations with Mr. Jordan regarding Ms. Lewinsky. Mr. Carter is asserting merely spawned leaks, counterleaks and sexual harassment case, until a New that his contacts with Mr. Jordan fall

'It's too bad Frank Carter, a great lawyer performing a legal ohligation, is stuck in a raging controversy that has nothing to do with him and confuses his bb offer in band.

But sources close to Mr. Carter said

role," said his attorney, Charles Ogletree. "Frank Carter's not part of any enterprise" bent on lying or thwarting Mr. Starr's probe. "His involvement was very narrow.

Mr. Ogletree, a Harvard University law professor, refused to provide details of Mr. Carter's legal strategy. But other attorneys said Mr. Carter may feel compelled to try to stave off Mr. Starr's subpoena for information about Mr. Jordan because the attorney-client privilege still holds in Mr. Carter's former legal representation of Ms. Lewinsky. Legal experts say it is a hotly debated

area of the law whether attorneys must reveal details of how a person became a client. Some subpoenaed lawyers resist disclosing more than the fact that they resentation began, experts said. It is not clear why Mr. Jordan, an

attorney himself at the high-powered law firm Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld decided to refer Ms. Lewinsky to Mr. Carter. Mr. Carter and Mr. Jordan are friendly but not intimate, associates

A prominent Washington lawver. Mr. Carter, 51, bas been an important figure in the controversy since it broke Jan. 21, with the question being asked in courthouse lunchrooms and judge's chambers: Could he have conspired with Ms. Lewinsky to write a false

"1'd be stunned" to hear Mr. Carter deliberately helped Ms. Lewinsky prepare a false affidavit, said one federal idge in Washington, who was named to the bench by a Republican president.

Instice Department officials agreed, with oue calling Mr. Carter "a straight shooter" who would drop a client before

POLITICAL NOTES

Landing at Reagan Airport

WASHINGTON - With a tear in his eye, Ronald Reagan's son Michael stood at a lectern on Capitol Hill on Wednesday and asked, "Can you just win one more for the Gipper?"

Soon afterward, Congress did: Two days before bill to rename Washington National Airport in honor of the ailing former president. The vote in the Senate, to change the name to

Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, was 76 to 22, with 22 Democrats voting in favor. The House vote was 240 to 186, with three Republican nays and 18 Democratic ayes.

President Bill Clinton is expected to sign the measure, clearing the way for new signs and recorded

greetings welcoming 60 million travelers a year to the Ronald Reagan Airport. New Candidate in California

WASHINGTON — Representative Jane Harman, a moderate Democrat with enough cash to finance an exceptionally expensive campaigns, has declared her candidacy for governor of California.

So far, Ms. Harman's main competitors for the raiser, Yah Lin Trie, on Thursday pleaded not guilty Democratic nomination are Lieutenant Governor Gray Davis and the former co-chairman of Northwest Airlines, Al Checci. Mr. Checci is reported to have said that he will spend up to \$50 million to campaign.

Attorney General Dan Lungren, a conservative, is virtually assured of the Republican nomination. On Wednesday, shortly before Ms. Harman's announce-Ronald Reagan's 87th birthday, both houses passed a ment, a possible moderate Republican candidate, Mayor Richard Riordan of Los Angeles, declared that he would not run.

The election will be viewed as a test of partisan strength in a state that had been reliably in the Republican presidential column but was a source of crucial support for Bill Clinton in both his campaigns. The next governor will also have to sign or veto the next plar to reconfigure the state's congressional districts; such plans are drawn up every 10 years after the census and can have a great effect on which candidates win. That can have a big impact in Congress, because after 2000, the California delegation will make up more than one-eighth of the entire 435member U.S. House of Representatives.

Clinton Friend Is Arraigned

WASHINGTON- A Democratic Party fund-

to 15 charges arising from a federal investigation into financing of the 1996 presidential campaign.

Mr. Trie, an old friend of President Bill Clinton's

who ran a Chinese restaurant in Little Rock, Arkan-

sas, was arraigned before Judge Paul Friedman of U.S. District Court after surrendering to the FBI here on Tuesday. Trial was set for Oct. 7 A grand jury last week brought 15 felony charges against Mr. Trie, a naturalized U.S. citizen born in

Taiwan, accusing him of directing illegal foreign contributions to Democratic campaign committees. Among the charges Mr. Trie faces are conspiring to commit wire fraud, money-laundering and obstruction of justice. Two of the counts carry a maximum

of five years and a \$250,000 fine. Mr. Trie left the United States in late 1996 and was thought to have taken refuge in Beijing before he returned to Washington.

penalty of 10 years and the other 13 carry a maximum

Quote/Unquote

Representative J. D. Hayworth, Republican of Arizona, on what Americans want from their congressmen this year: "People are saying: 'Congress, just leave us alone!'

Away From Politics

• Once the army's top enlisted man, former Sergeant Major Gene McKinney has pleaded not guilty to charges of sexual misconduct against six women at the opening of a court-martial. Mr. McKinney, 47, has accused the military of targeting him for prosecution because

 In a case of what one official called "rain rage," a man stabbed another in the eye with his umbrella after the two accidentally bumped into each other during a rainstorm, the Los Angeles po-

 A week after a nail-packed bomb exploded outside near the entry, the New Woman abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, has reopened. An offduty policeman was killed and a nurse was maimed in the blast.

 Thousands of people were without power after a powerful storm pounded the East Coast and surprised the Appalachians with more than a foot of snow. The storm hammered the coast from Georgia to New Jersey with heavy rain and high winds.

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Politicians and Experts Call for More Drastic Policy

By Thomas W. Lippman

WASHINGTON - Foreign leaders and diplomats may be urging restraint on the accept to Clinton administration in the showdown with Council. Iraq, but a growing chorus at bome is calling currently being planned, with the objective of bringing down President Saddam Hussein.

Prominent members of the foreign policy establishment and some leading members of Congress say they are convinced that air attacks aimed at coercing the Iraqis into co-operating with United Nations weapons inspectors would not succeed, and would result in too narrow a victory even if they did.

Instead, they argue, the United States should go beyond the objective of curtailing Iraqi weapons programs and adopt a far-reaching strategy aimed at replacing the Baghdad regime. Although they are far from consensus on what that strategy should be, a few openly advocate the possible use of U.S. ground forces — a much greater commitment than the options being pursued by the administration.

Many supporters of a more forceful strategy are conservative Republicans and loogtime defense hard-liners, such as the Senate majority leader, Trent Lon, Republican of Mississippi, and a former Pentagon official, Richard Armitage. But they also include former Representative Stephen Solarz of New York, a liberal Democrat who with a former Pentagon official, Richard Perle, is circulating a letter in Congress and foreign policy circles seeking bipartisan support for a more ambitious policy.

In addition to a crushing bombing cam-paign or the possibility of ground troops, some advocates of tougher measures are suggesting seeking Iraq's expulsion from the United Nations, indicting Mr. Saddam as a war criminal, or blockading the port of Basra to halt illicit oil exports — an action that would infuriate Iran, which shares the Sbatt al Arab waterway with Iraq.

Such moves, if made unilaterally, would almost certainly draw the ire of most of America's UN partners and frame the crisis even more starkly as a conflict between Wash-

But public opinion polls may indicate sup-

poll published Monday showed that by 68 percent to 24 percent, Americans favor air strikes provided they are designed to remove Mr. Saddam from power, oot just force him to accept the commands of the UN Security

Nongovernmental experts agree that the administration faces a quandary in Iraq, one which many said was inevitable after the U.S. decision to end the Gulf War without deposing Mr. Saddam. They share the administratioo's view that Iraqi defiance of UN weapons inspectors is unacceptable. But they say a campaign of aerial bombardment such as one the administration is considering is unlikely to end that defiance.

But many more are arguing that the administration should strike forcefully and then, whatever the outcome, devise a plan to bring down Mr. Saddam's regime.

The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, said that the United States onght to adopt a position that either Mr. Sad-dam agrees to unlimited UN inspections or he will be replaced with a regime that will agree to end the current Iraqi weapons program.

John Bolton, an analyst at the American Enterprise Institute, said: "There is no way Saddam Hussein will fully accept the UN leave in place an ineffective inspectioo regime or you get in new government in Iraq

Saddam Hussein and his regime from power," which they said "will require a full complement of diplomatic, political and mil-

itary efforts.' Among the other signers were R. James Woolsey, Mr. Clinton's first director of central intelligence; the conservative commen- NIMITZ - Already home to tators William Kristol and William Bennett; a Paula Dobriansky, head of the Washington British armada, the waters and office of the Council oo Foreign Relations; the skies of the Gulf became even former defense secretary Dooald Rumsfeld; more crowded Thursday. and Robert Zoellick, who was a key foreign policy adviser to President George Bush.

But the administration has no intention of Gulf, the total number of carusing ground troops in Iraq, officials said, and riers here reached four for the does not plan to make the ouster of Mr. first time since the United ddam a declared goal of its Iraq policy.

"Every day we didn't achieve it, be would



inspection regime. That means you either Aboard the U.S. Navy carrier George Washington, E7 Chief Victor Jones looked on as fighter pilots returned from sorties over Iraq.

that will accept them." Mr. Bolton was one of 18 signers of a letter Mr. Clinton calling for "removing Allied Fleet Brings Big Stick to Crowded Gulf

By Douglas Jehl New York Times Service

ABOARD THE U.S.S. powerful American and

When the U.S. aircraft carrier Independence entered the been patrolling for nearly States and its allies went to war against Iraq seven years ago.

four months, had been scheduled to head home a few weeks ago. But for now, its commanders say, the carrier and its crew of 5,500 will almost certainly stay put, to underscore the magnitude of the punishment the United States is prepared to inflict on Iraq if diplomacy cannot resolve the latest standoff with the United Nations. "You need to make sure it

dence, with 75 aircraft aboard

and a battle group that in-

cludes a cruiser, a destroyer

and a submarine, joined a

U.S. fleet headed by the

90,000-ton nuclear-powered

carriers Nimitz and George

Washington already operat-

The Nimitz, which has

ing in the waterway.

is very clear that there is a military option behind all Rear Admiral John Nathman, commander of an Gulf that be described as "the then a sense of déjà vu. big stick" behind this week's ... flurried diplomacy.

By Thursday afternoon, the clusters in the wake of the Gulf housed 19 ships - nine of them capable of firing Tomahawk cruise missiles more than 150 warplanes, and more than 20,000 airmen and sailors from the United States alone, along with a British navel task force headed by the carrier Invincible.

The role of the four carriers in any attack will become particularly crucial if Sandi Arabia does not allow the United States to use the scores of warplanes based in the kingdom in any military operation against Iraq.

Amid sunny skies and glassy waters, there appeared to be no sense aboard the ship that any military action was imminent. But along with the increasing ferocity of U.S. pronouncements, the sbeer size of the buildup - far larger than any since the Gulf War of 1991 — bas instilled American battle group in the among some who were here

"Everyone is hoping that if we do cross the beach, it ends A 30-year-old fighter pilot the whole thing, because this

EU-Israeli Talks to Focus on Aid to Palestinians

The tension with Iraq has

affected the Nimitz during its ton, on Sept. 1. After stops in Japan and Hong Kong, the ship was sent to the Gulf in early October, when Iraqi aircraft began to flout the noflight zone in southern Iraq, skipping a scheduled port call

The pilots and crew geared up for a possible clash in November, when the dispute between the United Nations pected weapons sites first peaked. With tensions and military threats now at new heights, its scheduled return to Norfolk, Virginia — for replacement of its 23-yearold nuclear reactors — has been put off.

Not surprisingly, that has caused some impatience and frustration among airmen and: sailors who have not seen their families since late sum-- some bave not yet seen babies born in their absence, 42 in all.

Lientenant Janet Jacobson,

Lieutenant Colonel David

Peeler, 42, of the Marines. said with evident weariness:
"We've been watching this began when it left its bome situation for quite a while port of Bremerton, Washing- now, and we're ready for something to happen or go

Mon Janu Visit to Bush

Captain Isaac Richardson 3d. said: "The crew is a little bit one would like to know the schedule, but that's something that isn't possible."

Officers and commanders also acknowledged that the and Iraq over access to sus- addition of yet another carrier to the three already plying the Gulf will require them to devote more care to making sure the planes do not fly into one another's path. They noted that the Gnif War had taught that such coordination was possible, and they emphasized the power that so large a force can bring to bear.

Each of the three U.S. carriers carries nearly 5 million pounds of munitions. And in contrast to the Gulf War, when navy's F-18's carried general-purpose bombs, those aircraft have been outfitted

Israel Signals It Would Strike Back

'Right of Self-Defense' Against an Iraqi Missile Attack Is Retained

By Lee Hockstader lashington Post Service

JERUSALEM—Israel is giving signs that it will not again exercise the same. Israelis goes; there is no such solid Arab. spokesman, David Bar-Illan, said Thurs-restraint it did in the 1991 Gulf War, coalition to worry about. And many Is-day that he had personally checked with when the Israelis yielded to American

who, speaking on CNN, strongly urged Israel not to retaliate against Baghdad even if Saddam Hussein answers fresb American air strikes by attacking the

In response, the government said Thursday that "Israel retains its right to self-defense and will operate according to its security interests.

This position has oot changed," it said. The statement, issued by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahn's office, did not say it would take U.S. concerns

Israel's reluctance to accede to the American request comes at an awkward time for Washington. The United States is trying to line up enough international support for a military strike punishing enough to force Iraq's compliance with the United Nation arms-inspection regime, if diplomacy fails to achieve the

same goal. Arab states have expressed lukewarm support for the American threat against Iraq and would certainly not be heartened by the prospect of Israel join-

ing in the fray. In 1991, Israel was hit by 39 Iraqi missiles, which did serious damage to some residential neighborhoods but caused only a handful of deaths. The country refrained from launching a counterattack at the request of the United States, which feared the Jewish state's involvement would threaten the solid

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backing of Arab states; which the administration of President George Bush had so assiduously courted. This time, the thinking among many

pressure and held its fire in response to opposed to the decision not to retaliate in legislate in legislate

A leading government hard-liner, the bousing and infrastructure minister, Ariel Sharon, said Thursday that Israel should conduct its own defense in the event of an Iraqi attack.

Hirsb Goodman, editor of The Jerusalem Report, a respected biweekly, urged in the current issue of the magazine that Israel be included in all planning and decision-making leading to an attack oo Iraq and be giveo a free hand to act independently.

"With all doe respect to the American and European flotillas being sent to the Gulf, oeither New York, Washington, London, Helsinki nor Stockholm is in

imminent danger, like Tel Aviv, of being blown away. "Mr. Goodman wrote.
Mr. Cohen, bowever, suggested that Washington was as determined to keep Israel on the sidelines as it was in 1991. Asked if Washington wanted Mr. Netanyahu "not to fight back" if Iraq strikes again, Mr. Cohen said on CNN. "Yes, the United States would prefer —

very strongly urge — the Israelis not to, even if attacked." He added, "We believe that we have the capability of dealing with this matter, and we will be there to help protect Israel, Kowait, Saudi Arabia — all those

in the region." The Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz reported this week that Mr. Netanyahu gave

the cold shoulder when she asked him Saturday not to respond if Baghdad attacked. But the Israeli government raelis are pointing out that they were participants in the meeting Samrday in opposed to the decision not to retaliate in Jerusalem, who said Mrs. Albright had participants in the meeting Samrday in

using protogreat or chemical warheads to make a statement than to ligence officer in the last conpeople here have flocked to gas mask distribution centers for the past week.

Ligence officer in the last conflict. His squadron was hongilots aboard the carrier, described the experience as bayont commanders and pilots say will enable them to strike with dropping mock bombs in near than to ligence officer in the last conplicts aboard the carrier, described the experience as bayont commanders and pilots say will enable them to strike with dropping mock bombs in near ligence officer in the last conplicts aboard the carrier, described the experience as bayont commanders.

By Barry James International Herald Tribune

15-nation European Union, which has

poured hundreds of millions of dollars

into building up the economy of an embryonic Palestinian state only to

find its efforts thwarted and nullified

needs," Mr. Santer said Thursday.

'They must be assured. But all our

efforts will be in vain unless we can

We are aware of Israel's security

by Israeli security demands.

paid for by Europeans.

break the vicious cycle." He said be would tell the Israeli overnment that the external aid for the BRUSSELS -- When Jacques Palestinian Authority can contribute to Santer, president of the European the peace process. The EU has con-Commission, flies to Israel this weektributed well over half the \$2.8 billion committed to the process between end, he will arrive at Tel Aviv and not 1993 and 1997, and this aid is up for at the completed but never used Gaza airport, which has been almost entirely renewal this year. Meanwhile, the European Parliament is putting in-The Gaza airport, which requires creasing pressure on the commission. only a turn of a key to become opthe executive arm of the EU, to explain erational, sums up a dilemma for the what the aid is accomplishing. The

answer is, oot much. A total of \$1 billion worth of private investment in the Palestinian areas in 1992, the last year of the intifado, was more than four times the amount invested in 1996 after four years of the peace process. Meanwhile, unemploymeet bas more than doubled to about 42 percent and per capita income has

investors were steering clear because Israeli security measures, including border closures and severe restrictions on Palestinian laborers entering Israel for work, made it impossible for them to realize any profits. The officials said it was vitally necessary for the Palestinian Authority to trade perishable agricultural products and other goods directly with the outside world, but that this was impossible so long as the airport remained closed and building of a planned seaport for Gaza remained blocked at Israeli bebest.

The European aid was intended to form the basis of a Palestinian economy. Instead, officials said, most of it today goes to paying the daily running costs of the Palestinian Authority, including the salaries of teachers, police officers, fire fighters and other public workers.

Mr. Santer's room for maneuver

Commission officials said private was limited. He could threaten to cut off the aid, which may be what the Israelis want anyway, officials said, unless be can convince them that to do so would unleash another oprising. Alternatively, he could threaten to cancel the EU's bilateral association agreement with Israel, which, if the diamond trade between Tel Aviv and Antwerp is excepted, runs heavily in Israel's fa-

"It is a very delicate situation," he said. "We do not want to break down what we have already constructed with a lot of patience, but to find the means to complete the construction." Mr. Santer said the EU wants a bigger

role in the peace process. "We do not want to substitute for the Americans." he said, "but we have a complementary role to play and we want the investments that we and our allies have made to be taken more amply into account."

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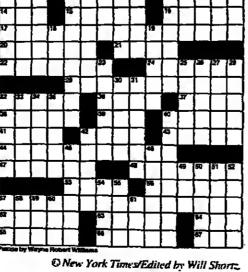
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IRAQ: Saddam Won't Be Target of Military Attack, Clinton Vows

Continued from Page I

contemplating a period of two to three weeks to educate the public about the extent of Iraq's arsenal and to exhaust diplomatic options. Those comments left the impression that the earliest period for U.S. military action against Iraq would be in the second half of February.

The Clinton administration has said

that no decision on military action has been made. It also has refused to discuss a timetable, rejecting appeals by the In-ternational Olympic Committee that any such action be delayed until after the Winter Olympics, set to start Friday in Japan and end Feb. 22.

Without explicitly ruling out the pos-sibility of targeting Mr. Saddam, Clinton made it clear Thursday that such an attack would violate U.S. policy, which states that political assassinations are oot in U.S. foreign policy interests.

Our interest is in preventing Saddam Hussein from building biological, chemical, onclear weapons capability" along with "the missiles to deliver such weapons," he said. "That is our interest. That's where the authority from the United Nations resolutions rests."

He added: "Would the Iraqi people be better off if there were a change in leadership? I certainly think they would be. But that is not what the United Nations has authorized us to do. That is now what

our immediate interest is about." U.S. defense officials said that Mr.

Clinton had decided to send the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit to the Gulf and that additional F-117A Stealth fighters and B-52 bombers might also be dispatched to the region, although final orders had not been received. "I expect the official order on the Marines to come within hours," an official said. "That decision has been made."

The Marines would join 24,400 U.S.

military personnel already in the region, most at sea with two aircraft combat carrier battle groups that include 14 com-bat ships, 11 support vessels and 325 warplanes. The Invincible, a British air-

craft carrier, is also in the region.

The British foreign secretary. Robin Cook, speaking Thursday in Kuwait, said Baghdad would be given every possible opportunity to find a peaceful end to a standoff and warned Mr. Saddam not to risk the consequences of military action. In Baghdad, Mr. Saddam ordered the release Thursday of all Arab prisoners held in Iraq in a move that appeared aimed at winning Arab sympathy. The Iraqi press agency INA announced the

the secretary-general of the Arah League, Esmat Abdel Meguid. It was oot immediately clear bow many prisoners were involved.

move just bours after the president with

Again, Yeltsin Warns of War David Hoffman of The Washington

Post reported from Moscow:
President Yeltsin, for the second day
in a row, strongly warned the United
States on Thursday against the use of
force in Iraq, saying Russia "would not
allow" a military strike and repeating
that it could lead to "world war."
The Foreign Ministry added, however,
that Russia would not "resort to extreme
measures" in response to Mr. Clipton's

measures" in response to Mr. Clinton's order to bolster troop levels in the Gulf.

We should not allow an armed strike, an American strike, whatever the circumstances," Mr. Yeltsin said to reporters on the eve of a planned visit to Italy and the Varican. "I told Bill Clinton that we would not allow that."

He added, "The most important thing is that we assumed a firm stand: no to the settlement through the use of force. It is impossible, it will mean a world war."
Mr. Yeltsin used the "world war"
formulation on Wednesday as well, and

was oot a threat of military retaliation. Russia has tried for months to broker a diplomatic resolution, but it has taken a higher profile in recent days with Mr. Yeltsin's blunt warnings against a military strike, a marked contrast to the earlier initiatives that skirted any col-(AP, AFP. Reuters) lision with the United States.

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ASIA/PACIFIC

Seoul Backpedals on Nuclear Pact

Funds Are Lacking for Reactors for the North, U.S. Is Told

By David E. Sanger New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - South Korean officials have told members of President Bill Clinton's administration that Seoul's financial crisis has left it unable to pay its promised share for the construction of nuclear power plants in North Korea, the key element of the deal that balted the North's nuclear weapons prograin three years ago.

South Korea was expected to ask the United States and Japan, in a meeting on the nu- of the project when the govreactor construction.

American officials are con-problem. cerned that any signal from Seoul that it is slowing the \$5 billion civilian nuclear proj-

Korea to hreak its commit- from the South, are clearing to North Korea to supplement

eapons program. The South's effort to delay spicuous example yet of how the Asian financial crisis is spilling over into American foreign-policy problems in the region.

The incoming South Korean president, Kim Dae The Jung, has repeatedly said that Seoul is committed to carrying out the 1994 accord. But devoting lens of millions of dollars to the early stages the early stages of the project. ers are facing mass layoffs. The U.S. Congress, however, has become what one senior has become what one senior has refused to fund directly the South Korean official called 'a very delicate political

After lengthy delays, the project is just getting under way. North Korean workers, ect could embolden North in conjunction with engineers

ment to halt its nuclear the site for the two nuclear

Last week, the Nuclear its payment is the most con-Washington published an unusual notice in the Federal Register: a request from Combustion Engineering, a nuclear equipment producer, for a license to export two reactors, for "commercial operation of electricity," to

rive goods to the Communist country are barred. The notice was something clear accord in New York on erament is in the midst of an of a diplomatic gaffe, offi-Thursday, to provide more for austerity campaign and work-the early stages of the project. ers are facing mass layoffs 1994 accord calls for the reactors to be of "Korean style" to calm South Korean objections that Seoul was paying for reactors made by

North Korea. Ordinarily, ex-

ports of virtually any sensi-

American companies. American officials familiar with the sensitive negotiations over the nuclear deal said Wednesday that they suspected Seoul may be using the financial crisis to test Wasbington and Tokyo's willingness to pay for a bigger part of the North Korean project.

The South wants the Americans to commit money to building the light-water reactor, something Congress has refused to do, though the clear that "the financial crisis United States has spent about is going to keep us from solv \$100 million sending fuel oil ing this problem this year."

its energy supplies.

'We have made it clear that we do not think Congress is ter reactor for the North under any conditions," a senior U.S. official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

It is not clear how North Korea will respond to South Korea's talk about the financ-The reactors are the quid

pro quo for freezing the nu-clear program," said Gary Milhollin, director of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control. "If the reactors don't go forward, we will confront at some point North Korean reluctance to do their part of the deal." The 1994 accord defused a

diplomatic confrontation with North Korea that came close to triggering hostilities along the Demilitarized Zone between the two Koreas, according to two recent studies. South Korea and Japan have

been haggling over how to divide the cost of the reactors. Japan has discussed an investment of more than \$1 billion. The meeting Thursday was

scheduled to try to resolve that dispute. But one American official said it was now is going to keep us from solv-



Police and army officers blocking protesters in Jakarta during a mock riot on Thursday outside Parliament.

Indonesia Force Hones Anti-Riot Skills

The Associated Press

JAKARTA - Determined to bead off potential protests, Indonesian police and army forces staged dramatic exercises Thursday to show how they would react violence breaks out before a presidential election next month.

Hundreds of armed troops and dozens of military vehicles were deployed outside Parliament, around the tower-like National Monument near the presiden-

tial palace, and at a disused airport. Anti-terrorism commandos dropped down on ropes from helicopters as yellow

equipped with anti-riot gear, parrolled city streets in a show of strength.

Many fear that social unrest might disrupt the election in early March. Unemployment has soared to more than 8 million, including 1.5 million who have lost their jobs since the economic crisis began, the government said Thursday.

Some parts of Java and neighboring Sulawesi Island have been rocked by sporadic violence over rising food and Ansterity measures enacted by the

and pink smoke grenades exploded be-government under an International Indonesia for 32 years.

low. About 5,000 police officers, many Monetary Fund economic rescue plan are adding to the nation's discontent. Edward Aritonang, spokesman for the Jakarta police, said Thursday that the maneuvers' showed how security personnel would secure the Parliament during a "mass riot." They also practiced

how to stop projesters from crossing provincial borders, he said. In elections next month, the 1,000member People's Consultative Assembly is almost certain to elect President Suharto to a seventh five-year term. Mr. Subarto, 76, has governed

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hour of trial," he said. Pakistan holds the northern third of Kashmir, and India 1989 has claimed more than 20,000 lives.

Book on Jiang Visit to Washington

Puts 'Partnership' in Positive Light

China's Spin on U.S.

Rone Tempest Los Angeles Times

BEIJING - Soon to be found on bookshelves across China: The Bill Clinton-Jiang Zemin story.

Although not as titillating as some of the sagas circulating in Washington, this 237-page glossy paperback with smiling Presidents Clinton and Jiang on the cover is still something of a political milestone. For one thing, few other governmentauthorized books in recent memory have offered such a positive spin on the United States.

Besides eight pages of color photographs from Mr. Jiang's official visit to the United States from Oct. 26 to Nov. 3, the book, "Building a Constructive China-U.S. Strategic Partnership," includes two sbort speeches that were delivered by Mr. Clinton during the summit meeting. Mr. Jiang's speeches during the meeting are also repro-

duced in English and Chinese. Described in a promotional poster as "indispensable for party and government organs, social groups, foreign affairs organizations, education and research institutions," the book was

unveiled Wednesday at a Foreign Ministry news conference. Guo Chongli, chief editor of the state-owned World Affairs Press publishing bouse, said the book will be formally presented at the annual national book fair that begins Friday in the

Mr. Gno said the book, with an initial press run of 11,000 copies, will be widely promoted across China and sold for 18 yuan (\$2.17) in the national Xinhua bookstores.

At least as important as the text - mostly fairly tame political speeches by the two leaders and fawning editorials from the People's Daily and other publications - is the

The cover photograph of Mr. Jiang and Mr. Clinton is framed by a border of linked Chinese and American flags. The nows more photos of Mr. Jiang and laughing with American leaders including Mr. Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, the House speaker, Newt Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, and others.

The book contains references to bilateral problems, including "major differences on the question of human rights." But it makes no mention of the Oct. 29 White House news conference in which Mr. Clinton and Mr. Jiang, who is also chief of China's Communist Party, engaged in a brief, pointed debate over the Tiananmen Square crackdown in 1989.

BRIEFLY

Leftists Claim Attack at Narita

TOKYO — A radical leftist group took responsibility Thursday for a rocket attack at Tokyo's main international airport and mocked security measures for the

Winter Olympics in Nagano. In the attack Monday at the Narita airport, three rockets were fired into a cargo plane area, injuring an airport

worker. Two of the projectiles exploded.

The Revolutionary Workers Association sent letters to news organizations claiming responsibility, a spokesman for the National Police Agency said. In the letter, the group said it was opposed to the construction of a second runway at the airport. It also criticized the U.S. Japanese military alliance.

Grim Hunt on Philippine Ridge

CLAVERIA, Philippines — Working in a thick fog, rescuers found the first bodies Thursday from a DC-9 airliner that crashed on a Philippine mountain ridge with 99 passengers aboard. The remains of 11 people were

Government officials grounded all seven remaining planes operated by the airline, Cebu Pacific Air, until the cause of the crash is determined. All are DC-9s. (AP)

Gandhi Draws 150,000 to Rally

CALCUTTA - The widow of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi attracted a crowd of 150,000 here Thursday as she continued her campaign to rally support for the

once-dominant Congress (I) Party. The flag-waving crowd, the largest to attend one of Sonia Gandhi's rallies, waited for four hours after her

arrival was delayed. The Italian-born Mrs. Gandhi hopes to bolster the party ahead of general elections from Feb. 16 to March 7. "Only the Congress can build a new India," she said, calling the party a protector of national ideals. (AFP)

Pakistan Vows to Aid Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan vowed to stand by the people of Kashmir on Thursday, and business and government activity halted in major cities on a day set aside to show solidarity with those fighting Indian rule in

President Mohammed Rafiq Tarar urged India to let Kashmir decide its destiny. "It is our national duty and obligation to extend all possible political, diplomatic and the Himalayan state. moral support to our Kashmiri bretheren in their darkest

administers the rest, where a separatist campaign since



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THE WORLD'S DAIL! NEWSPAPER

6-02-98

Italy and U.S. Dispute Path of Plane That Caused 20 Ski Lift Deaths

CAVALESE, Italy — Italy said Thursday that a U.S. warplane had strayed off course before snapping a cable car's overhead wires, sending 20 people hurtling to their deaths, but an American officer insisted that the plane had kept to its designated flight path.

As an angry nation, meanwhile, demanded an accounting, U.S. officials promised to cooperate fully with the Italian investigation of the affair,
The Italian defense minister, Beniamino Andreatta, told a parliamentary committee that the U.S. Marine EA-6B Prowler surveillance plane had flown far off course and must have dipped

tains on Tuesday. "The only explanation for the impact on the plane's tail is that the craft hit the cable lines as it was flying back up from below the lines," he told a parliamentary defense committee hearing in

under the cable car wires in the Dolomite moun-

He said the plane was 10 kilometers off its set

2,000 feet (600 meters).

"There would not have been any danger had the aircraft kept to the regulations," he said. Media reports said the plane was flying at

around 100 meters — about the height of the cables — when it caused the disaster Tuesday.

At the U.S. air base in Aviano, northeast Italy, Brigadier General Guy Vanderlinden said the pilot of the plane had been authorized to fly on a low-level mission and had not strayed from its scheduled path.

"The preliminary information we bave indicates he was over the route," General Van-derlinden said. "The pilot was authorized to fly on a low-level mission.

The Marine Corps sent a seven-man investigating team to Italy to investigate.

'I think the altitude of the aircraft is the central

issue to be discovered by the investigating team," he added. "I don't have the information that Minister Andreatta has."

In Washington, however, Defense Department officials said Wednesday that the plane appeared to have been flying far below the minimum authorized altimate for training missions.

other crew members as Captains P. Schweitzer, 30, from Westbury, New York, W.L. Raney, 26, from Englewood, Colorado, and P. Seagraves, 28, from Nineveh, Indiana.

While they said it was too early to blame the Marine Corps pilot or the plane's navigational equipment, the ufficials said they "cannot dispute" the view of the Italian prime minister that 'tragic recklessness' was responsible for the

The jet, which carried a pilot and three other crew members, returned safely to the NATO air base in Aviano, in northern Italy, despite damage

to its tail and one wing.

A U.S. official said Thursday that the pilot of the jet was on his first flight over the Cavalese region of Italy.

The pilot, identified as Captain R. J. Ashby.

30, from Mission Viejo, California, had 750 hours of flying experience including flights over Bosnia, a spokesman at Aviano said.

A statement from the base identified the three

On Thursday, the four crew members were still at Aviano base and will not be allowed to fly until the U.S. military inquiry has completed its

The main mission of the two-engine EA-6B jets is to identify the type and location of enemy radars and either jam their signal or attack them with high-speed anti-radiation missiles. Pilots do low-level training because in wartime they must sometimes fly as low as 100 feet to avoid detection by radar.

Residents of this small ski village in the Italian Dolomites, who say the roar of jets often jolted them awake at night, mourned the dead at a memorial service.

Among the 1,000 people attending the service 100 meters from the cable car station was General

operations in southern Europe, expressing Americas condolences.

"There's an ongoing investigation, a cooper-ation of Italian and U.S. authorities," he said. 'It's our wish that this investigation comes to a quick ending, so that the healing process can

Families of the victims poured into the stunned valley town. The mood in the ski town matched the chill conditions as relatives from Germany and Poland clasping each other for support lair red roses on the blood-stained snow amili the flattened wreckage of the yellow cabin.

Investigators will be trying to determine how the pilot failed, despite good weather, to see cable lines clearly marked on maps. Unconfirmed reports have quoted residents as saying military pilots often like to fly under the cables as a

Prosecutors questioned the plane's crew on Wednesday, but the four servicemen refused to Richard Bethurem, commander of NATO air answer questions. (Reuters, AP, AFP, NYT)

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BRIEFLY

Yeltsin Vows to Keep Reformers

MOSCOW - President Boris Yeltsin pledged Thursday to keep Anatoli Chubais and Boris Nemtsov in work until 2000, a move intended to move them out of the political doghouse and shore up confidence in Russia's reforms.

Mr. Yeltsin said people had attempted to unseat Mr. Chubais and Mr. Nemtsov from their posts as first deputy prime ministers to Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.
"Undoubtedly, they have not made any attempt to rock the boat," he said of the two ministers. "But others have."

Mr. Yeltsin appeared to be referring to pressure from some "Russian business interests to remove the pair from the government. "I will stand my ground," Mr. Yeltsin said. "I am

telling you, both will continue working until the year 2000."

Mr. Nemtsov and Mr. Chubais are respected in Western

financial markets for their expertise. In another development, the lower House of Parliament, the State Duma, approved the government's 1998 draft budget on its third reading. Deputies in the opposition-dominated chamber approved the draft budget by a vote of 232 to 141, with one abstention. The fourth and final reading, usually a formality, is

Belarus Recalls Envoy to Poland

MINSK, Belarus - Belarus recalled its ambassador to Poland on Thursday, accusing Warsaw of meddling in its

internal affairs by supporting opposition politicians.

"We recalled our ambassador for consultations and have been bolding talks on the forthcoming visit of Polish Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geretwek," Foreign Minister Ivan Antonovich said at a news conference. He said Mr. Geremek's visit, scheduled for the end of February, should be postpoued until Minsk and Warsaw improved their relations.

Mr. Antonovich said the recall of the ambassador, Viktor Bursky, had been linked to a recent meeting of Belarussian opposition politicians in the eastern Polish town of Bialystok and to tougher border restrictions imposed by Poland on Belarussian citizens since Jan. 1.

Bonn Backs Holocaust Memorial

. BONN — The government said Thursday it would not abandon plans for a Holocaust memorial in Berlin despite an appeal to Chancellor Helmnt Kohl from 19 prominent writers to reconsider the project.

Germany's best known living writer, Guenter Grass, was among the signatories of the open letter sent Wednesday. It was addressed to Mr. Kohl as well as the parliamentary speaker Rita Suessmuth, Berlin city authorities and the private group that initiated the project.

A government spokesman said none of those parties had changed their position. "They have all agreed firstly that there will be a memorial to the Jews murdered in the Holocaust," be - said. "Secondly, it will be on a plot of land set aside for this, and thirdly, the decision on the form of the memorial will be one of the four hlueprints which we have before us." The letter argued that none of the four options was suitable for such a memorial.

Oh, Pooh: A Tempest in Winnie's Honey Pot

NEW YORK - The hnney pot got stirred up Thursday — all because a British lawmaker wants five original Winnie-the-Poob stuffed animals returned to Britain.

The situation of Pooh and friends won front-page cov-erage in The New York Times. The editorial page of The Times of London featured the 'Poob Five' comparing New York and London. The British culture minister, Chris Smith, promised to consider the case.

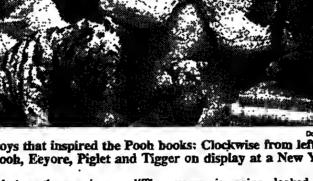
"The special relationship between Britain and the United States was on a knife edge as a diplomatic squabble broke out over the future of five threadbare animals," The Financial Times reported.

As Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain met President Bill Clinton during an official visit to Washington, a Labour member of Parliament, Gwyneth Dun-woody, started a campaign in the House of Commons to repatriate the "Pooh Five." The animals are Pooh

himself, Tigger, Kanga, Ecyore and Piglet, five of the original toys on which A. A. Milne based his famous stories. (Roo, apparently, was lost by Mr. Milne's son, Christopher Robin, in an English field long ago.)
The five stuffed animals have spent the last 11 years

in a glass case at a Man-hattan branch of the New York Public Library, and the library was bombarded with telephone calls after Mrs. Dunwoody's repatriation campaigu degan

The toys were donated to the library hy E. P. Dutton, publisher of the original Winnie-the-Poob book in the United States in 1926. Mrs. Dunwoody com- Pooh on Thursday.



The toys that inspired the Pooh books: Clockwise from left, Kanga, Winniethe Pook, Eeyore, Piglet and Tigger on display at a New York City library.

itage and they want to come home," she said. "They look very unhappy indeed. I am not surprised considering they have been incar-

cerated in a glass case in a foreign country."
But a New York library spokeswoman, Nancy Donner, rebutted any accusations of animal cruelty to the 'Five' in their climate-con-

trolled glass case. "By all reports, the Pooh Five haven't been this comfortable since their days in the Hundred Acre Wood,"

Rudolph Giuliani, also took up the case. Saying "we're issue would be "down the not a colony anymore," be agenda" in his talks Thurs- something I have given deput a visit to Winnie-the- day in Washington. "I'm tailed consideration to at this

question to Mr. Smith, and friends that they're safe "They are part of our her- on American soil," said a mayoral spokeswoman, Culleen Roche,

Mr. Giuliani promised to do everything possible to keep the toys. "They've been very happy here," the mayor said, adding a historical barb: "We were freed a long time ago."

New York's governor, George Pataki, also railied to the cause, saying, "There's no better place in the world for this kind of exhibit."

Mr. Blair, meanwhile, denied knowing much about to worry about a trans-Atthe proposal to bring Winnie lantic move anytime soon.

home and said on the ABC

Asked what he planned to York's mayor, program "Good Morning do about Mrs. Dunwoody's America" program that the

plained about the toys in a "The mayor is going looked after where they formal House of Commons there today to assure Winnie are," Mr. Blair said. The toy animals took the unusual step of talking to the editorial page of The Times

of London. Piglet wasn't so sure about repatriation, telling the paper: 'Back in England we were just little animals entirely surrounded by nannies and middle-class attitudes. In New York we have

grown np. Tigger was equally duhious. "New York is more fun

for bouncing," he wrote. In any case, Piglet and Tigger probably won't have

plea, Mr. Smith said, must confess it is not sure they're perfectly well- stage." (AP, Reuters, NYT)

Clinton Gives Blair A Special Welcome

British Leader Praises President

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton laid out a big welcome mat Thursday for Prime Minister Tony Blair of

Britain, an ally who supports him in his personal travails and his efforts to stop Iraq's weapons development.

Welcomed by Mr. Clinton as a close ally, Mr. Blair pledged to stand united against Iraq and warned President Saddam Hussein that "the threat of force is there, and it is real." Mr. Clinton greeted Mr. Blair with a firm handshake and

said, "We can always depend upon each other." Earlier, making the rounds of television morning talk shows, Mr. Blair embarked on a key goal of his visit: lining up public support for a military attack on Iraq if diplomacy fails. He recled off statistics of the Iraq president's arsenal of

chemical and biological weapons. Regarding his other big aim in Washington, to stand by Mr. Clinton through his personal troubles, Mr. Blair sidestepped a question linking moral rectimde and political leadership. He said all that matters was Mr. Clinton's political skill.

Yon've just got to have some sense of balance and perspective about the issues that really matter to people." Mr. Blair said. "You have a president who is doing a superb job, who has huge respect and standing on the international stage." He added, "To me, that is what counts."

Mr. Blair came to the Washington talks with as much leverage as any previous British leader, partly because his government is the only U.S. ally to commit its aircraft and ships to a possible strike against lrag.

There was an air of chumminess between the two leaders, who consider themselves soulmates on politics and policy. 'Ours is the politics of the radical center," Mr. Blair said. In an informal touch, the two men, wearing nearly identical blue suits, took questions from reporters in the Oval Office as

they stood next to each other sipping from large coffee mugs. During this session, Mr. Clinton was forced to deny again allegations that he had a sexual affair with a former White House intern and urged her to lie about it.

Mr. Blair, mindful of the troubles facing Mr. Clinton, went out of his way to praise the U.S. leader in his arrival remarks. "He said what he wanted to deliver for the American people and be is delivering," Mr. Blair said. "He never said it would be easy but he stuck to his guns. He never promised miracles but he has delivered progress, real progress, for the people

who elected him.' The two leaders also said they would discuss efforts to reach peace in Northern Ireland, where a recent wave of sectarian lings has threatened multiparty peace talks.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Blair addressed each other as leaders of a new generation of politicians hewing neither to the left nor the right. "On so many issues, we think alike," the prime minister said.

"We are in politics for the same thing, because we want to modernize our countries for the new millennium," Mr. Blair said. "Ours is the politics of the radical center."

Mr. Clinton said both nations "have moved to huild a government for the 21st century, going beyond the dogma of

They also are united in the Iraq crisis, virtually alone among major powers in warning Iraq of military strikes if diplomatic efforts fail to force Iraq to permit unhindered inspection of all sites suspected to be involved with weapons of mass de-

struction.
"We have stood together before in the face of tyranny, Mr. Blair said. "Today, in the face of the threat from Saddam Hussein, we must stand together once more. We want a diplomatic solution to the crisis, but the success or failure of diplomacy rests on Saddam. If he fails to respond, then he

knows that the threat of force is there, and it is real." Mr. Clinton said, "We will stand against those who defy the will of the international community, bringing terrorists to justice, in the case of Pan Am 103; maintaining stability in the Persian Gulf, where the British aircraft carrier Invincible is patrolling the waters alongside our U.S. fleet - something our men and women in uniform find great strength in. Mr. Prime

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Too Late, China Clears Flight by Balloonists

GENEVA - China belatedly gave three European balloonists permission to cross its airspace Thursday, but the team's control center said the clearance had came too late to save their roundthe-world dreams.

The Breitling Orbiter 2 was flying northwest of Calcutta on Thursday, its speed having slowed to 11 kilometers an hour (7 miles an hour) in light winds. The balloonists — Bertrand Piccard of Switzerland, Wim Verstracten of Belgium and Andy Elson of Britain-now have no chance of picking up the jet-

the Pacific on their way to becoming the first circumnavigating balloonists.

They are now expected to fly over the

Bay of Bengal and on to Burma, a us," Mr. Noble said. spokeswoman for the control center said. The balloon was expected to land Friday either in the Burmese capital, Rangoon, or in Pegu, one of Burma's ancient capitals, 65 kilometers (40 miles) northeast of Rangoon.

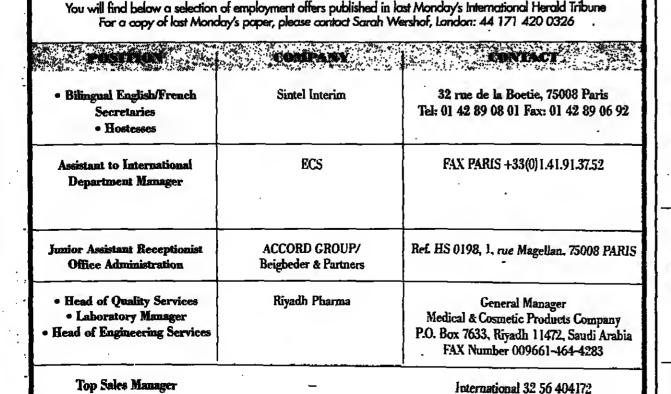
The flight director of the mission.

stream winds needed to speed them over Flavio Cotti. Beijing had argued that the balloon posed a threat to other aircraft. 'It came as a bit of a shock to be told we had permission when it was no use to

> But he added: "I'm certain the decision of the Chinese authorities, although too late for us, will be good for other balloons. Beijing's decision paved the way for a

competitor, the British entrepreneur Richard Branson, and others to make Alan Noble, said Chinese officials had new attempts to circle the globe. Mr. dropped their objections to the flight after intervention by the Swiss president, attempt next year. (AP. Reuters)

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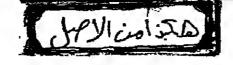
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Money for the IMF

The roster of lobbyists marching up to Capitol Hill to make the case for giving the IMF an infusion of \$18 hillion says something about the importance of the Clinton administration's proposal. The principal salesmen are Treasury Secretary Robert Ruhin and Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve.

The Clintoo administration argues, correctly, that the IMF, for all its flaws, remains the only institution that can snuff out financial crises abroad before they bury local economies and before they reverberate around the globe, striking even the United States. Withont new money from Washington, the Fund's other members are unlikely to contribute, the reserves that it needs to hail out countries in financial distress.

After the administration's humiliating failure to gain approval of "fasttrack" trade legislation last year, the IMF vote takes on a larger political importance. America's partners wonder whether its commitment to the glnbal economic order is waning. A second congressinnal rebuke would send an alarming signal abroad that the United States is in further retreat.

That is why the administration's new sense of urgency is welcome, as is the decisinn by a pivotal Republi-can leader, Jim Leach, chairman of the House Banking Committee, to advance the cause. The \$18 billion would not suhtract money from other federal programs because it is treated like a bank deposit.

Mr. Leach's novel contribution to the debate is his proposal to impose conditions on the IMF designed to improve its mixed record. The hill calls for less secrecy in Fund operations. Mr. Leach, for instance, wants it to make its bailout agreements public. He would also subject its policy-making to review by independent experts.

The idea is to expose policy mistakes

before they do damage. In Indonesia, the IMF, even hy its own admission, cracked down too hard on banks, driving the economy into a needless tailspin. Had the policy been subjected to outside review and correction, millions of Indonesians living on the margin of subsistence could have been spared the loss of their jnbs.

Critics also accuse the IMF of protecting bankers better than workers or the environment. The Leach bill presses the Fund to take account of worker rights and environmental conditions without imposing rigid remedies.

In the process of bailing out Snnth

Korea and other collapsed Asian economies, the Fund has been forced to rescue foreign investors who made bad loans. It could not do otherwise. A country whose currency is under siege needs to attract foreign capital to keep factories and other business afloat. If the country defaults on its foreign loans, foreign investors will flee.

But a bailont that bolds some foreign investors harmless suggests that they can make imprudent loans with impunity. Mr. Leach properly wants the MF to devise ways to make foreign investors bear at least some loss before it comes to their rescue.

The Fund's critics need to be reminded of its successes. It has kept the financial crisis in Asia from spreading to Russia, Brazil and the United States. It has pressured South Korea and Indonesia to wring crony politics nut nf their commercial banking transactions. It has demanded pledges by each of the countries to adopt Western standards of accounting that will tell in-vestors the true financial state of their banks and businesses.

To deny the IMF additional money now is to invite economic calamity and to undermine the vital interests of the United States.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Execution in Texas

Karla Faye Tucker was executed by lethal injection Tuesday evening in Texas, the first woman put to death by that state since the Civil War, Ms, Tucker's death followed a 16-to-0 vote by the state's Board of Pardons and Paroles against commuting her sentence, and decisions by both the Supreme Court and Governor George W. Bush not to intervene. The execution ends a public clamor for clemency for Ms. Tucker, one stoked by high-profile support from Pat Robertson and Pope John Paul II.

Ms. Tucker was, in many ways, an odd choice for the international celebrity she managed to attain. She was an admitted pickax murderer and former teenage prostitute, who once boasted that she had experienced sexual pleasure when she brooght the pickax down on her victims. Yet she became the object of much solicity including from some who generally favor the death penalty, because of her sincere religious conversion and her good works during her more than 14 vears in prison.

We also would have liked to see Ms. Tucker granted clemency, both because we oppose the death penalty itself and because she appears to have been a genuine penitent who had clearly changed dramatically since her conviction. At the same time, Ms. Tucker is far from the only person to have reformed while on death row, and the death penalty, by its very nature, is not particularly concerned with rebahilitation after sentencing.

In some measure, the reason such an unusual number of people entertained the idea of commuting Ms. Tucker's death sentence was that she did not fit their stereotype of the death row murderer, and many death penalty supporters are squeamish about executing

women. Her case was wrenching for many people not because the death penalty had been unfairly or wrongly applied but because it had been applied to the wrong sort of person.

Unfortunately, it does not seem to bother people all that much when the death penalty is unfairly or wrongly applied in other circumstances.

It is worth remembering, for example, the 1992 execution of Roger Keith Coleman in Virginia, Mr. Coleman was put to death despite some very significant evidence of his innocence, evidence that was never reviewed hy the federal courts. His lawyers had missed a state court appeals deadline by a few days, so the Supreme Court, in deference to the procedures of state justice systems, never dealt with the question of whether he might actually Day O'Connor's decisioo begins:

It is also worth remembering the execution that same year of Ricky Ray Rector in Arkansas. Then-Governor Bill Clinton took time out of his 1992 presidential campaign to supervise thekilling of Mr. Rector, who had shot himself in the head after killing a cop and whose brain was so badly damaged that he did not understand what was happening to him when he was finally put to death. Mr. Rector actually saved the slice of pie that came with his last meal so he would be able in eat it later.

This is a case about federalism.

However sympathetic a figure Ms. Tucker had become, her execution does not highlight any of the ontrages of the death penalty system. It represents, rather, the system working exactly as it has been designed to work smoothly and unencumbered by sentimentality or mercy.

-THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Saddam Has to Be Stopped

[Saddam Hussein] offers a menace that has to be stopped. His possession of chemical and hi-

nlogical weapons, both difficult in use directionally for military purposes, is probably not a menace even to regional neace in the short term. The Iraqi's determination to make

himself the master of a nuclear arsenal, in which he will succeed in the long term if he is treated with weakness. makes him the most dangerons state leader in the world at the moment.

President Clinton is doing the right thing in bringing him under the threat of air attack. If the Iraqi electricity system

goes down as a first step, so be it. - John Keegan, commenting in The Daily Telegraph (London).

If the United States goes ahead in attacking Iraq, it [will] discover that Iraq will come to haunt future American policies in a manner not dissimilar to the spell that Vietnam has exercised

> - S. Nihal Singh, commenting in the Khaleej Times (Dubai).

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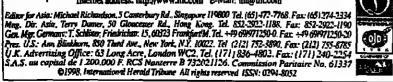
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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Resigned to an Inconclusive Whack at Saddam

WASHINGTON — At one of the closed Capitol Hill briefings given hy the Clinton administration over the Iraq crisis, a member of Congress likened Saddam Hussein to the Energizer Bunny, the nne that keeps on going. No, said the administration's briefer, the Iraqi dictator was more like the toy mole in the "Whack a Mole" game. It comes up one hole, you bop it on the head and it comes up another.

For the United States and its remaining Gulf War allies, the anticipated military actinn against Iraq has a resigned, world-weary quality to it. Nnt only is it anticipated that Saddam will survive, but he is expected in due course to return to his old behavior. This mole never gives up.

The hope (it may in fact be closer to a dream) is that critical elements of Iraqi society will blame Saddam for their misery. That is why the bombardment being contemplated may not turn out to be brief but of prolonged duration, maybe a couple of weeks or so.

The aim is to so hurt the Iraqi military, especially Saddam's Republican Guard, that they will either demand that . By Richard Cohen

he ahide hy the agreement he made with the United Nations or (dream on) dispatch him to an emeritus status. The chances of that happening are

only slightly better than the chance of catching Saddam ont in the open and parting his hair with a very smart bomb. But the Clinton administration figures it has no choice but to proceed anyway, knowing that victory, in the old sense nf capitulation, is unattainable.

It is even far from certain that, when the bombing ceases, the UN inspectors will once again be granted access tn whatever area intrignes them.

The scenario is simultaneously unsatisfying and inevitable. The only way to ensure Saddam's removal would be to send in ground troops. (About 100,000 would be needed.) But Saudi Arabia, the launching pad for the 1991 allied invasion of Kuwait and Iraq, is unavailable this time around. So not only will there be no massive invasion, no Amer-

ican ground troops at all will be used. Another, if unspoken, option is to do oothing. That, though, would mean allowing Saddam to continue his weapons program and, in short order,

intimidate much of the Middle East. Moreover, it would spell the end of the United Nations as an effective international organization. Up to now, it really has accomplished much in Iraq, destroying more weapoury through inspections than the allies did from the air in the Gulf War. (The United Nations, in fact, has been so effective that Congress ought to consider paying the

United States dues.)
In one sense, Saddam represents a no-brainer. The man is so vile, so evil. so patently irrational that letting him get his way is simply not an option.

Still, military action is a perilous course. It will produce what is called collateral damage, a fancy term for the accidental killing of civilians and, possibly, the unintentional destruction of a school or mosque. That in turn will provoke protests in parts of the Arah world, where the United States is considered the protector of a recalcitrant Israeli government.

As for Israel, it can expect that Iraq

will send some missiles its way maybe armed with chemical or hiological agents.
The United Nations has never been

able to account for all the chemical or hiological weapons that Iraq was once thought to have; possibly, even more have been produced. The same is true for Scud missiles. Iraq has some, that's for sure. If the United States launches air strikes against Iraq, there is a fair chance that innocent Israelis will die as well - more collateral damage. This, after all, is not Israel's fight.

None of the options available to the Clinton administration are any good. But the worst would be to allow a sociopath like Saddam to develop chemical or, in particular, hiological weapons which, almost certainty, he would use. He already has used poison gas against his own people.

He is not, to return to metaphor, a mole but a rat. It would be best to exterminate him, but, barring that, he needs to be whacked. Sometimes, in statecraft as in life itself, all you can do is what you can.

The Washington Post.

Hear This: Palestinians Should 'Live as a Free People'

By Henry Siegman

Enlarge the European Union Before NATO

By Howard Baker Jr., Sam Nunn,

Brent Scowcroft and Alton Frye

has come to endorsing the

concept of Palestinian statehood.

The statement goes a long way toward establishing a framework

holds the promise of meeting the

most basic aspirations of both

Mr. Arafat tald Mr. Clinton

in their meeting that Palestin-

ians were willing to negotiate

their differences over process with Israel as long as that pro-

cess leads to the intended goal.

take more stringent and sus-

tained measures to fight terror,

ations with six aspirants, in-

cluding the three candidates

NATO is considering. Linking

NATO expansioo to the expan-

sioo of the EU would accom-

connection between Europe's

security and its ecooomy, and

offer certification that entrants

to NATO could afford to meet

It would permit the Part-

nership for Peace to demoo-

strate that it should be the prop-

er association for countries

outside NATO. So long as the

option to join NATO remains

open, it utterly undercuts the

partnership as the preferred

. It would allow the United

States and Russia to focus on

the gravest security problem

still before us, the formidable

hangover of nuclear and other

The cooperative framework

provided by the NATO-Russia

Fnunding Act may be useful, but

frictions over NATO distract

Moscow and Washington from

during a critical window of op-

portunity to gain Russian co-

operation in controlling nuclear

arsenals and preventing prolif-

eration. Antagonism is sure to

grow if the alliance extends ever

link NATO and EU expansion.

If that link is made, it is essential

to stipulate that admission to the

European Uninn is not suffi-

cient qualification for entry into

NATO, which should weigh

any future applicant against the

contributions and hurdens its

inite, if not permanent, pause in

NATO expansion, the Clinton

Baltic Membership?

What is called for is a def-

By leading the charge for

Baltic membership would

hring with it a reconfiguration

of forces in NATO. And the

nuly way the allies could defend

the three former Soviet repub-

lics, under the NATO treaty's

security guarantee, would be

with renewed reliance on nu-

clear weapons. This would

For this and other reasons.

America's NATO allies have

been resolntely against mem-

bership for the Baltics. Wash-

ington's unilateral persistence

on this might eventually lead to

an Eisenhower, in the

Los Angeles Times.

a fatal split in the alliance.

force the Russians to take cor-

responding measures.

membership wnuld entail.

this process.

The Senate would be wise to

loser in Russian territory.

profound common dangers. Even if everything goes right in expanding NATO, we will have misplaced our priorities

weapons of mass destruction.

It would underscore the

plish several things:

its defense obligations.

mode of cooperation.

Palestinians are prepared to

Palestinians and Israelis.

TEW YORK — The recent discussions between Bill Clinton and his Middle Eastern visitors, Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, focused on measures that Palestinians must take to fight terrorism and that Israelis must take to redeploy in the West Bank, as required by the Oslo accords. President Clinton put forward a formula intended to bridge differences oo thuse two linked issues.

Such bridging measures, however necessary, are not sufficient to revive Oslo. The peace process can resume only if the parties have reason to believe it is likely to lead to realization of their most hasic goals.

For Israel, these are security for its citizens, recognized bor-ders and normal relations with its oeighbors. For Palestinians, it is viable statehood.

That is why the most important development by far during

WASHINGTON — The looming Senate debate on

NATO enlargement marks a his-

toric encounter between good

intentions and sound strategy.

Despite momentum toward

admitting Poland, Huogary and

the Czech Republic, the fun-

dameotal interests at stake de-

mand probing examination of

the specific candidacies, the an-

liance to this fateful juncture.

and the troubling implications

worked to huild a strong

NATO, we harbor grave reser-

vations about the pending ex-

pansion and the direction in

Far from being a Cold War

relic. NATO should be the

cornerstone of an evolving se-

curity order in Europe. It

provides the infrastructure and

experience indispensable in

coping with instabilities -

Bosnia today, and other trouble

arms control and maintaining

the kind of industrial base that

provides a solid defense.

crises beyond Europe.

yond prudent limits.

NATO is vital to ensuring

Perhaps most important.

But a cornerstone is not a

sponge. The function of a

cornerstane is to protect its own

integrity to support a wider se-

curity structure, not to dissipate

its cohesion by absorbing mem-

bers and responsibilities be-

girds other institutions, includ-

ing the Organization for Secn-

rity and Cooperation in Europe

and the Western European Un-

ion. It makes possible the Part-

nership for Peace to promote

cooperation among countries

THE rush to expand the al-

L liance has put the cart be-

fore the horse. Advocates and

skeptics of NATO enlargement

agree that the transformation of

Eurnpe's security structure

should be related to the trans-

secretary of state, has testified.

European Union membership

"is just as important as mem-bership in NATO for the coun-

tries invalved," and "we must

make clear that NATO mem-

bership for the countries of

Central Europe is not a sub-

stitute for closer economic ties

In our view, it would have

been preferable not in invite

more countries to join NATO.

At the very least, it would be

desirable for the European Un-

ion to proceed with its planned

expansion before NATO com-pletes the acceptance of the new

The European Union has

now decided to begin negoti-

to the EU.

members.

As James Baker, the former

formation of its economy.

that are not NATO members.

A powerful NATO under-

NATO provides the institution-

al home for coalitions to meet

Along with many who have

of that approach.

which it points.

spots tomorrow.

roach that has brought the al-

intensify security cooperation with Israel, and identify those these meetings was the statement by Mr. Clinton to Mr. Araparts of their Covenant that fat that an essential goal of the were abrogated by a Palestine National Council resolution last April. What they will not do, peace process, in the American view, is that Palestinians should be able to "realize their aspir-Mr. Arafat told the president, is ations to live as a free people."
It is as close as Mr. Clinton

give up on the gnal itself. And no nne has a right to demand of the Palestinian people that they do so.

Decisions by Israel's calimet for final-stage negotiations that before Mr. Netanyahu's arrival in Washington constituted a rejection of that goal. The cabinet decided unilaterally that more than 60 percent of the West Bank will remain in Israeli hands. It also imposed 50 conditions that Palestinians must meet before Israel will make any further redeployments.

If Israel can unilaterally remove most of the West Bank

administratioo may well elicit

hasty proposals and consider-

able pressure to admit other

countries. Other Central and

East European coontries are

hoping that they, too, will soon

club, and the administration's

rhetoric and policy risk convert-

ing NATO into an organization

in which ohligations are diluted

and action is enfeehled. Pursn-

ing that path may simultaneous-

ly spur Russian animosity and

weaken the alliance's capability

WILLIAM Perry, the former defense secretary,

and Warren Christopher, the

former secretary of state, ac-

knowledge the problematic situ-

ation in which the United States

finds, itself. In their words:

'There is no consensus on the

wisdom of the path taken so far

by the alliance and spearheaded

by the Clinton administration."

Christopher state that NATO

should remain open "in prin-

ciple," they contend that no ad-

ditional members should be des-

ignated until the three current candidates "are fully prepared

to bear the responsibilities of

membership and have been in-

That reads to us like advice to

We are in accord with that

view, and with their argument

that NATO should make the

experience of Partnership for

Peace membership for non-

NATO members "as similar as

the administration's premise

that NATO should be receptive

to many additional members.

That is a prescription for de-

It guarantees future discord

with present allies, few of

whom are prepared to follow

the Clinton policy to its logical

structure in which Russia as-

sumes a place commensurate

with its geostrategic importance

and its progress toward demo-

With dne respect, those cam-

cracy and a market economy.

paigning to expand NATO con-

fuse the longer-term challenge

of shaping a comprehensive se-

curity system with our continu-

ing responsibility to sustain a

The question confronting the

The imperative now is for the

Senate to bring to bear the in-

dependent assessment man-

Senate is not only whether to

enlarge NATO, but how, when

rohust NATO as our principal

security bulwark.

and on what terms.

The task is to build a security

end, the inclusion of Russia.

tegrated into the alliance."

slow this train down.

NATO membership.'

stroying the alliance.

While Mr. Perry and Mr.

to contain it, if required.

be welcomed into allied ranks.

stage negntiations begin, then the Oslo accords and the process they established have in effect been abrogated.

Israel's security interests are real; it has an ohligation to its citizens to demand reasonable Palestinian accommodation to those interests. But nn country can define its security interests so broadly as to preclude not only the security interests of its neighbors but also their very national existence. "We need security, ergo you may ont live" is not a viable axiom of

international relations. And far from providing added security, it is an axiom that provokes revanchism and violence as far as the eye can see.

It is not only cabinet declarations that abrogate the peace process. Rhetoric can be reversed, although it is hard to imagine a reversal in a cabinet from the table even before final- dominated by Ariel Sharoo and

dated by the U.S. Constitution.

options, including linking al-

liance expansioo with EU eo-

largement and laying down a

marker against an excessively

TO expansioo is a bad idea

whose time has come" is oo

This is not a dose of medicine

one can swallow and be done

enlargement would be compa-

rable to Senate rejection of the

League of Nations. One doubts

that senators will respond well

As John Maynard Keynes

noted at the time, the central

failure of Versailles lay in the

fatal miscalculation of how to

deal with a demoralized former

adversary. That, above all, is the

Mr. Baker is a former Re-

publican senator from Tennes-

see. Mr. Nunn is a former

Democratic senator from Geor-

gio. Mr. Scowcroft was national

security adviser to Presidents

Gerald Ford and George Bush.

Mr. Frye is a senior fellow at the

Council on Foreign Relations.

They contributed this comment

error we must not repeat.

to overdrawn analogies.

The Senate has constructive

elastic NATO.

basis for policy.

military capabilities.

Rafael Eytan. The real problem is changes on the ground by new Israeli housing, settlement activity and construction of major roads and infrastructure that create irreversible facts in the West Bank and inexorably relegate Palestinian areas to a

number of isolated Bantustans. These actions by Israel's government formed the background to President Clinton's important statement about U.S. support for Palestinian aspirations to "live as a free people." Those words injected a critical new dynamic into the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Among other things, Mr. Arafat oow has a credible argument that Palestinian frustration should not be allowed to lead to the abandonment of Oslo and to a new intifada just when the United States has decided to assert diplomatic muscle to save the peace process.

The timing of this new initiative is less than felicitous. Its impact will be diminished by two distracting factors. The possibility of an imminent U.S. military confrootation with Iraq will inevitably take some pressure off Mr. Netanyahu, and in the short run Mr. Clintoo's personal problems may make it harder for him to face down supporters of Mr. Netanyahu in the U.S. Congress.

It is clear from Madeleine leverage to shape a wiser out. 'Alhright's latest meeting with come than simple acquiescence Mr. Netanyahu in Jerusalem in the president's plan. The that Israel's prime minister has widespread grumble that "NAcircumstances enable him to defy Presideot Clinton. Most Israeli observers have decided that for the duration of Mr. Netanyahn's stewardship,

peace process is dead. with. It is a fundamental ex-But there will also be prestension of American security guarantees, an ill-defined invisure on Mr. Clinton from friendly Arah countries and tation for new members unre-European allies during this perilated either to military threats or od of confrontation with Iraq, A final caution to the adwhich may well last beyond a single military strike, to show ministration: It is no service to more evenhandedness in dealcandor or consensus to invoke ing with the obstructionism of the shadow of Versailles, implying that resistance to NATO

Israel's government. This underscores the importance of continued and vigorous U.S. insistence on a framework for final settlement that includes viable Palestinian statehood. The United States must make clear that unilateral actions in the territories will not be able to change this outcome.

before reason prevails, hut until that time U.S. insistence that Palestinians cannot be denied their national aspirations will establish a marker that nn Israeli government can erase and that will serve as the basis of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations when they are eventually resumed.

The writer o senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, contributed this to the Insernational Herald Tribune.

possible to the experience of 10 The New York Times. We are duhious, however, that consensus can be found on

1898: Accord on China ST. PETERSBURG - It is

rumored in diplnmatic circles that an accord has been reached by Great Britain and Russia on the Chinese question. Lord Salishury nn longer demands the opening nf Ta-Lien-Wan, which would severely hamper Russia's acknowledged sphere of influence in the Liao-Tong peninsula. Russia, on her part, promises to secure the opening

1923: Radio Teaching

an Editorial:] Radio-Telephony will be largely employed in education. Every lecture deversities could be radio-telephoned to hundreds nf thousands, even millions, of matter is too complex to be re-

tion, there would at least be something imparted that could serve the listener, even if it were only tn incite him to further pursuit of that particular study.

1948: French Films PARIS - The National As-

sembly was asked to revise the Blum-Byrnes agreement regulating American film showings in France and to increase state aid in the ailing French film industry. The Blum-Byrnes accord stated that French theaters wnuld be required to show French films at least four weeks nut of every thirteen-week period. The remaining nine weeks were to be opened to free competition against foreign films. In practice, however, most of the remaining nine weeks have been taken over by American films, which are being cheaply disposed of oo the Europe market out of a war-time backtained from merely oral recep- log of some 2,000 films.

Exaggerated

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More blood may well be shed

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

of Port Arthur to foreign trade.

PARIS - The Herald says in

livered in the colleges and unihearers. Even where the subject

OPINION/LETTERS

(Arylinity)

Saddam

would some missiles its way Third Nations has dever ben secount for all the chemical of cal weapons that it ad was one to have: possibly area more produced. The same is my massiles. Index has some that if the United States launch around Iran, there is a few massiles are the content of the same in the content of the con against Iraq, there is a far that innocent Israelis will also more collateral datases. The B nor lerrel's tight

of the options at attacle to be administration are any fore worst would be in allow his hands off the White House help - well, at least the econlike Saddam in develop omy is in good shape. or, in particular biologica But willful ignorance never which almost certain e works. If we Americans had He already has deed perm paid close enough attention to Bis Gwn peop. the Gennifer Flowers fiasco in 1992 we would have realized by now that these matters are not just about Mr. Clin-

government favors.

something drastic.

morally indifferent.

In the fall of 1990 Ms.

Flowers was broke and out of

work. She called her friend Bill Clinton, then governor of

but a rat. It wante he best to the part parting the te to be whasked. Sometimes a sin life itself, all you can a en eller marenner - p

Free People'

Rafael Eylan The real play Behange, on the probable Istach housing, to ment tivity and one and and of the Table and man have Erenie mer er me lett me West Book and Creating legate Patritical sical p. mare ber of the Line Somers There action by Ingot arms out to be his

ground to Pro-12th Cing Reported that the court eugh of the Palatonian Lea the state of the s REAL PLAT . TO SEE THE 3.5 Arrange Control of the Arrange of th

gamera P. command Bert Chair thailmet Trump of the beat - 1772 1211...091 n, immerebelb പ്രധാനം ആ and the second 200 th Northburg 20. $\tau_{i}(0,0) \in \mathbb{N}$

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1948: French file

represent America. The polls are proof that the American political system works. We have open and free elections, and no violence and only rare corruption in the

leaves much to be desired.

Doesn't America Deserve Better Than This? By Bob Herbert TEW YORK — The pres-ident's poll numbers are nately it looks like I will have

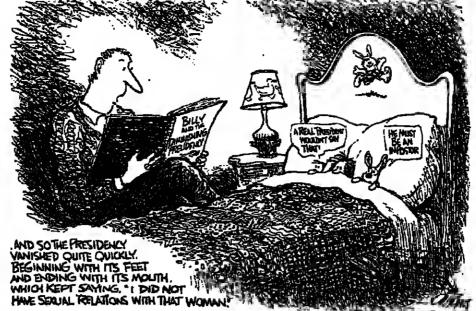
up, and large numbers of to pursue the lawsuit to hope-Americans are trying to cover fully get some money to live their ears and close their eyes on, until I can get employto any further developments in ment." the Clinton-Lewinsky saga. They are counseling the

Ms. Flowers was threatening to press a very public law-suit against a radio station that media to let the story go. Bill Clinton's sex life is his busihad claimed she was Mr. ness. His and Mrs. Clinton's. Clinton's mistress. The gov-And if the president can't keep ernor got the message. Ms. Flowers was hired as an administrative assistant at a state agency called the Arkansas Board of Review.

This was bad news for a veleran state employee and mother of three named Charlette Perry. Ms. Perry was up for the same job and filed a grievance when Ms. Flowers ton's sex life. They are about got it. A grievance committee patterns of lying and abuses ruled in Ms. Perry's favor, of governmental power that concluding that Ms. Flowers are at least as corrupt as achad been improperly hired. cepting money in return for

That meant nothing. A Clinton crony named Don Barnes, who headed the Board of Review, rejected the committee's findings.

Early the following year, Arkansas, and asked for a Ms. Flowers, on the tapes that Mr. Clinton said, "Good for state job. Not much she secretly recorded can be you. happened. The following heard telling Mr. Clinton: Fa "The only thing that con-cerns me, where I'm, where February Ms. Flowers sent the governor a letter suggesting she was ready to do I'm concerned at this point, is friend of Mr. Clinton's. And the state job. "Bill, I've tried to explain Mr. my financial situation to you



you've talked to me about it, it didn't pay much and didn't

And when Ms. Flowers told Mr. Clinton that she had lied about a certain matter to the grievance comminee (she was under oath at the nine).

Fast forward to Monica Lewinsky. Like Ms. Flowers, Ms. Lewinsky was a close she was looking for a job. She Clinton replies; landed a position at the Yeah, I never thought about Pentagon with a top-secret and how badly I need a job that ... If they ever ask if clearance and lots of travel, but

seem to be working out. She was offered a job by

Ambassador Bill Richardson, who had breakfast with her at the Watergate. She declined the offer. Last month she accepted a sex with the president. \$40,000-a-year job with Revlon, whose chairman, Ronald O. Perelman, is a major contributor to Mr. Clinton. Ms. Lewinsky was recommended for the position by

the president's good friend Vernon Jordan.

was coming through (it was rescinded when the scandal broke), Ms. Lewinsky was preparing a swom affidavit, in connection with the Paula Jones suit, in which she denied that she had ever had

there is a convergence here of matters public and private that is repellent and dangerous. It is about more than Mr. Clinton's sex life. It is about a governing style

it has a right 10 know. Clinton's performance do not think he had

Last week Mr. Clinton looked the American people squarely in the eye and said. emphatically: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky." The polls show that the

Not even his closest friends believe him. But the economy is doing well. So we are supposed to sift through the moral wreckage that is the Clinton White House and find those bits and pieces of presidential of people. Their willingness to give a credibility that might have

You would think a great

As with Gennifer Flowers,

that is so reckless and so contemptuous of both the truth and the public that potentially paralyzing scandals are all but inevitable. It is about deceit as a way of life. The public may not want to know, but

public, on the whole, does not believe him.

survived.

country like America would deserve better The New York Times

Karla Faye Tucker's Last Act: Putting a Face on Death Row

By Ellen Goodman

OSTON — Death came to Huntsville, Texas, as a spectacle.

Somewhere in the gothic prison structure they call The Wall, the warden took off his glasses as a signal to let the execution like." begin and a lethal cocktail flowed into Karla

Outside, a crowd of 1,000 greeted her

MEANWHILE

Man" or "Jesus Was a Victim of the Death Penalty.

The European camera crews that had come to the execution capital of America, exception. home to seven prisons and 11,800 inmates, beamed home the pat image of the Wild West. They broadcast the image of a backward Lone Star state where America's highest crime rate is unabated by its highest execution rate. The death of this woman was preceded

by an unrivaled celebrity star turn. She appeared on the religious broadcaster Pat Robertson's show, "The 700 Club," and on every network show that knew a good guest when it saw a freckle-faced killer or heard a born-again ax murderer. After her life was over, survivors rushed back from her death gurney to "Larry King

know Karla Faye Tucker's face and even pause. the contents of her last supper -- the banana, the peach, the tossed salad - had ever heard of Michael Lockhart, the man who was put to state-inflicted death in December. Nor did they know that he had also wom a cross, toted a Bible, recited verses by

pickax in a victim and when the 38-year-old Ms. Tucker was declared dead at the hands of the state of Texas, a remarkable thing happened. Karla Faye made allies of Pat Robertson and the socialite Bianca Jagger, of Pope John Paul II and the American Civil Liberties Union.

some religious conservatives and some civil libertarians ended up on the same side on death row. - just as surely and just as unexpectedly as the brother and husband of one of the victims ended up on opposite sides.

This was a time when closed minds re-

A Christian Broadcasting Network reporter explained why her pro-death penalty view became pro-Tucker: "She didn't fit what we thought people on death row were

An evangelical commentator sup-Faye Tucker as she lay strapped to a ported this born-again murderer as a miraculously sweel-spirited little soldier in the war against criminal wickeddeath with gospel songs or football cheers, ness." The watchword shifted from vengeance to redemption, from justice to

Like many, I found myself uncomholding placards that read "Die Like a fortable with these sudden friends of mercy. I don't doubt for a minute that her whiteness, her femaleness, her photogenic Christian-ness made her the

Those who "fit" the image of people on death row are, after all, disproportionately black and almost entirely male. As the Reverend Jim Wallis, the editor of

the Christian magazine Sojourners, says, the test is "to apply that same compassion to a young black man who's had a conversion to Islam." Or for that maner to someone who's had no religious

As for being a woman, we have been told repeatedly that Ms. Tucker was the first woman executed in Texas since the Civil War. But as long as I have wrestled over the issue of capital punishment, it is not the criminal's gender but the legal system's Few in the vast audience that came to fallibility that has given me greatest

In 1863, Ms. Tucker's female predecessor, an innkeeper named Chipita Rodriguez, was hanged for the murder of a customer found floating in the Arkansas River. In 1985, the Texas state legislature passed a bill clearing her name. Better to have passed a bill allowing life without parole - which But somewhere between the moment Ms. Tucker asked for but which does not when the 23-year-old Ms. Tucker left a exist under Texas law — than a postmortem pardon.

But however uncomfortable I am with the idea that we need an attractive white female believer --- media-friendly and married to a minister — to induce second thoughts about the penalty that put 37 men to death in Texas last year, I give this For at least one moment, in one case, murderer her posthumous due. Any way some religious conservatives and some you look at it, Karla Faye Tucker put a face Not far away from The Wall, there is a

cemetery where men killed by the state of Texas are buried. The graves are marked with uniform white crosses and prison numopened, however slightly. A time when bers instead of names. For one moment opinions cast in black and white - for or before death. Karla Faye Tucker broke against the death penalty, tough or soft on through that silent graveyard of anonym-crime — were suddenly shaded with Tuckity.

The Boston Globe

Bill Clinton had some sort of sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky, and a large majority nonetheless approves of

Only 25 percent of the job President Clinton is doing. From this single-sentence summary of all the polls, enormous conclusions Mr. Clinton misbehaved are being drawn. It is assumed that Americans accept that this illicit relaand still approve of him. tionship happened and don't care. Some

see this as the end of our American civilization as we know it. Here is former Education Secretary William Bennett speaking last weekend: One problem is the problem of people who say, 'I see it, I think it happened, I think he lied about it and I don't care. That's a serious problem. That is an

WASHINGTON — There is a hnge misunderstanding between the

Washington commentariat and the

American people. It is producing much

anxiety over whether Americans are ig-norant, misinformed and, worst of all,

The misunderstanding is based on a

statement that is technically true: A ma-

iority of Americans thinks that President

erosion. That is moral decline." kind of amoral funk? Can people really had the affair with Monica Lewinsky. be that complacent about an alleged affair between a president and a 21-year- Most of the people who approve of Mr.

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

Exaggerated Fears of Moral Decline

old intern and the possible bald-faced lies that followed?

Mr. Bennett and everybody else can relax. The Washington view of opinion affair, 10 percent approve of Mr. Clinton ont in "the country" is based on an error that you learn about in Statistics 101. There is not one single majority rep- the affair and still resenting all of "the people." There are formance in office.

people polled both think

two majorities. One approves of the president. The other thinks he had the sexual relationship. The two majorities do not overlap nearly as much as every-

body is claiming. To figure this out, I sat down with Claudia Deane of The Washington Post polling department and did some analysis Writing in The Washington Post about of The Post's most recent survey. The the view of Washington wise persons, survey paralleled all of the others you Joel Achenbach nicely captured the con- have heard about: 67 percent of responventional wisdom: "Are the American dents approved of the president's job perpeople blind? Are they lapsing into some formance, and 53 percent thought he had

But here is what you don't hear about:

the affair or are reserving judgment.

Here is how he gets to that 67 percent approval rating: 32 percent of all American approve of Mr. Clinton's job performance and do not think he had the and don't know whether he had the affair. And 25 percent think that he had the affair and still approve of his per-

In other words, huge conclusions about all Americans are being drawn on the basis of just one-quarter of us who think he had the affair and still say good things about his performance in office. True, one-quarter of Americans is a lot

higher priority to the president's professional achievements than to any matters sexual is crucial to his political health. But the fact is that a substantial ma-

jority is trying hard to keep its view of Mr. Clinton's job performance and its view of his personal behavior in line with each other. There is no amoral majority.

These numbers should trouble White House spinmeisters who boast that the president is out of the woods. Most Americans think the president is doing a good job, and most of these are giving him the benefit of the doubt. But if new information should undermine the president's denials, you can count on his approval rating to go down.

Washington Post Writers Group

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Presidential Matters

Bill Clinton's budget proposal as "the road back to the era words of Dick Armey, the House Republican leader (IHT, Feb. 3) - I gag at their news media to focus on the hypocrisy. What could be real news, not to respin the more intrusive than Kenneth Starr's interrogation of citizens about their sex lives?

The government has no business asking people whether they had sex with soand-so. There is only one answer to that question - "no" -and therefore the charge of perjury in this case is absurd. been asked.

on him or her should it become a legal matter. of our private lives. Send the

witch-hunters to bed! BRUCE JOFFE. Oakland, California.

I am writing about Senator Jesse Helms's comment that U.S. opinion polls showing an increase in President Bill Clinton's popularity "say a lot about the American people" and make him 'sad" (IHT, Feb. 2).

commentary on the American people. Senator Helms's words, however, are a very sad commentary on the pompous, self-righteous and totally outof-touch crowd of politicians, lobbyists and media person- Jan 21 but when, the followalities who mistakenly think that they, and not the citizens news anchors left Cuba, who live outside the Beltway.

electoral process. We care soap opera, I would like to

we have a capital totally out of sync with the nation. The quality of too many of the people she has been neutered. we have sent to Washington

How can we citizens undo the sex lives of each other.

Also, Americans want the fluff and nonsense of the professional spin doctors who are paid to confuse and distract us from the important issues.

I do not claim that President Bill Clinton is not a big part of the problem. He has become a symbol of the Washington Syndrome: above any normal The question should not have rules of behavior and, worse, answerable to no one.

Only when one person On the other hand, claims that another forced sex whatever President Clinton's extramarital predilections, they are (within limits of dis-Get those Republicans out cretion) his business and not matters of importance to public policy and governance.
However, the possibility

that he has perjured himself or suborned the testimony of anshould be properly investigated. This process should take its legal course and the results should be made known in a clear and straightforward manner. If he is guilty, he can na longer serve as our pres-

DREW HORGAN. The Hague.

For me the real scandal occurred not when the Clinton story broke in Washington on ing day, the three leading U.S. where they had been sent to cover Pope John Paul II's his-

Rome. In view of the astonishing political workplaces?

oan opera, I would like to It is incredible: America is Is the president's sex life

JOAN LEWIS.

make a modest proposal; at peace unemployment is none of our business? Of What the polls show is that Anyone running for govern-low, the crime rate is decreas-course not. We elected him ment office must produce a ing. Americans should be not only to be head of govmedical certificate that he or

FREDERICK S. WILDMAN.

Colebrook, Connecticut.

I can't count how many the awful consequences of the times pundits have compared When I hear the Repub"Washington Syndrome" as President Clinton's alleged licans criticizing President epitomized in Mr. Helms's behavior with that of Richard statement? We must demand Nixon: Both told lies and obthat those elected to serve as structed justice. Then everyof big government" - in the focus on real issues and not on one sighs and the discussion

> But I would like 10 carry it further. Look at what was being covered up. Surely there is a great deal of difference between lying about a burglary in the office of your political opponent and lying about an act of consensual sex.

In the first case there is a threat to the republic. Bnt any gentleman may reasonably prevaricate in the area of sexual behavior, which is after all a very private matter and really of no concern to public or prosecutor.

The pundits also are amazed that President Clinton's approval ratings approach 70 percent. I'm not surprised. Most people in America — "the land of the free" - can sympathize with a man who is having the most intimate details of his sex life other is a serious matter and scrutinized by a powerful and antagonistic organization. This entire "Starr Trek"

reminiscent of the old KGB: wiretapping, sexual spying, friend betraying friend. Is this the USA? SHELDON LITT.

Stockholm. As a French citizen, permit me to say that I generally admire and love Americans but right now find them utterly

ridiculous. What business of theirs is the president's private life? A president, or any other man, has the perfect right to as many mistresses as he wants. doesn't he? If Americans do not want their politicians to have mistresses, why don't

they kick all the himbos out of

proud of their president! Don't ernment but to provide moral they realize that their narrow- leadership. minded puritanism has made them the laughingstock of oth-

er nations? What credit can nations give a people that pays more attention to a politician's womanizing than to his economic, social and political record? I hope this silly business soon comes to an end. ANNE BRUNEAU.

Poiners, France.

This is a flagrant example of the press acting as judge, jury and executioner. The job of the press is to keep the citizens informed and to investigate when there is a clear absence of due process. It is not to speculate on impending impeachment when at this time no verifiable evidence of wrongdoing even exists!

KROV N. MENUHIN. St. Rémy-de-Provence. France.

Your European readers should realize that the charges against Bill Clinton are serious and cannot be dismissed. Similar charges led to First Lieutenani Kelly Flinn's dismissal from the U.S. Air Force, of which President Clinton is commander in chief. Such charges also nearly destroyed the career of Clarence Thomas, now a Su-

preme Court justice. Considering the problems of teenage pregnancy, sexual harassment and sexually transmitted disease in America, our leaders should set an example of decency for the people they lead or else find some other line of work.

ALLAN C. STOVER.

The media's one and only concern appears to be how to increase revenues. The harm done to the national interest on the international scene by such scandal-mongering seems to be of no concern. STANLEY FEIWELL

FRANK PEEL. Geneva.

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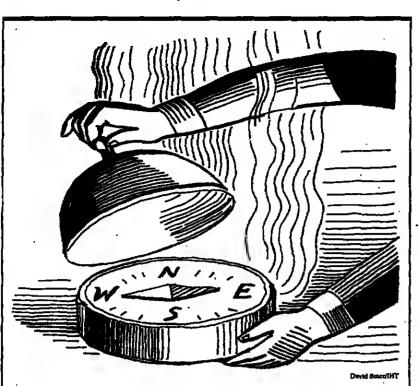
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about the real issues.



Getting Modern, Going International The Trendy, Quirky and Fine

By Patricia Wells

ONG KONG — With Hong Kong at the helm, all era in cuisine. From city to city, the young, hip and modern diner is finding a deluge of restaurants especially created for youthful tastes

The handover of Hong Kong to China in June inspired a flock of restaurants that scream MODERN with giant capital letters: Out with giant hanquet-style dining halls, fluorescent lights and red flocked wallpaper; in with intimate saloos, halogen track lights and clean, white minimalist

The biggest revolution here is taking place in what the locals now call Solio, for south of Hollywood, in the Lan Kwai Fong district in central Hong Kong. While the aromas of Stanton and Elgin streets used to be ink and furniture polish, the air is oow filled with the sceot of freshly roasted coffee, garlic, tacos and beer.

With names such as Nepal (with Himalayan yak's cheese for dessert), Desert 5ky (with Persian carpet place mats), Club Casa Nova (fresh potato gnocchi), Sherpa (Himalayan coffee) and Caramba (Mexican tacos and beer), the culinary revolutioo is a sign that young

Hong Kong residents want

more than dim sum and Peking duck. They also want the Western lifestyle and all that goes with it. They want cafés where they can hang out all day with a cup of java, and they have it with Staunton's Bar & Café, with its open feeling and giant glass windows onto the street. When they do go Chinese they want it to be retro, like the Red Star Café with its own beer and Mao-era posters of blue-clad revolutionary workers.

HOLD THE SUBSTANCE

They want everything that they consider cosmopolitan, youthful and a hit bohemian. And in weight-conscious Hong Kong, they want food that has more style than substance.

Wherever I went in Asia, the trend among the thirtysomethings was clear. Vegetarianism is on the rise, and many restaurants have a "oo red meat" policy. Red wine is the drink of the moment (Bordeaux, please, preferably top vintages and preferably rare). A whole new style of tea shops offering extensive and rare collections — caters to the young and well-heeled. Juice bars are the rage, as people pause for such elixirs as carrot, parsley and spinach juice "for twink-ling eyes, virality, great teeth & gums, good circulation, better digestion and Vitamins C and E."

There is at last a resurgence of interest in Southeast Asian food, as Thai and Vietnamese restaurants (largely ignored in Hong Kong for years) appear with SoHo's Wyndham Street Thai and Vietnamese Café du Lac. American-trained chefs with an

Asian bent are also flying high in Asia. The French-born Jean-Georges Vongerichten (with Asian-French restaurants in New York and Loodon), has opened another Vong in the of Asia is witnessing a new Mandarin Oriental Hotel. In Singapore, the American-born chef James Chew (who trained at Stars in San Francisco and Vong in New York) oversees Brewerkz, a splashy microbrewery and restaurant modeled after those in America.

There are, of course, inconsistencies and cootradictions. Take a look at the menn of the sleek, cool, chic Joyce Café with three addresses in Hong Kong and others throughout Asia, Decorated in black-and-white photographs of Hong Kong's markets, and clean lighting, the cafés are magnets for those who want to see and be seen. The menu is largely Asian, with a Salad Kyoto that combines crah roe and king crab leg, lemon zest, cucumber and avocado and fragrant shiso leaves.

DESSERT BINGE Sensible coough. But only so one can go wild oo desserts: Such as a warm phyllo tart of figs and berries topped with walnuts and strawberry ice cream. Or dark chocolate and marmalade fudge cake with King Island cream.

And then there is the fusion craze. Or too often, confusion. I have to ask, with all the comintricacies and wonders of Asian cuisines whether it be Japanese,

Chinese, Thai or Vietnamese

 why dilute the power and pleasures with willful Westernization? They call it an attempt to combine the best of food from around the world into a single cuisine. But who in his right mind would order Lobster Nachos with Boursin Cheese, Asian Tomato Relish and Guacamole? Or Spicy Gazpacho with Black Truffles. Or Wasahi Mousse with Oscietra Caviar and Shiso Potato Chips.

All these, and more, are found on the menu at Felix, the ultramodern, ultra-trendy and frankly beautiful Philippe Starck-designed restaurant atop the newly renovated Peninsula hotel. What happened, I wonder, to the chef who felt he had a responsibility to his diners as well as the ingredients to honor both the dish and

OTELS throughout Asia have been quick to catch on to the youthful appeal of multiple cuisines. At Raffles in Singapore, the already popular Doc Cheng features not only a mix of Asian and Western fare, but specially designed dining utensils, one end is a fork or a knife,

the other a chopstick. In June, the Hyatt Singapore hopes to open Mezza9, an atmospheric, jazzenhanced dining room with no less than nine show kitchens, featuring everything from European deli fare to a sushi bar, open Chinese kitchen, a walk-in wine cellar and a martini bar and cigar room. Everything but a

place to park the kids. Next week: Thailand

Cruising Fjords With Inches to Spare

Land of the Midnight Rainbow

By Sarah Ferrell New York Times Service

ERGEN. Norway - On shore, the Midsummer's Eve bonfires twinkle dimly in the sunshine as we sail out of Bergen. Jet-lagged, we seek out our cabin and go to bed long before dark. It is about 11 P.M., and by the time our ship makes port in Floro — the first of several dozen stops on this 2,500-mile voyage along the western coast of Norway - we are sound asleep, missing one of the few chances that we are going to

have to watch the sun set.

My husband, Tom, and I have signed on for a round-trip cruise on Bergen Line's Nordnorge, one of 11 ships that sail, year round, from Bergen around the North Cape to Kirkenes, a town a few miles from the Russian border. The voyage encompasses the better part of 12 days and, for all practical purposes much of our route is above the Arctic Circle, and it is the latter part of June -

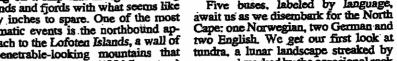
The 464-berth Nordnorge, which went into service in March, is the newest of the fleet, replacing the 219-berth Kong Olav. Uotil 1893, northern Norway was isolated during the long winter, in that year, however, the coastal steamer service was inaugurated to function throughout the year delivering mail, cargo and passen-gers. Although trucks and planes now deliver the mail, the coastal vessels still carry cargo, local passengers and an in-creasing number of tourists.

UR cabin is just wide enough to accommodate two narrow bunks, one that turns into a sofa by day and one that folds flat against the wall, and a small table, with shelves for binoculars and bird books, set between them. There is a comfy chair, a dressing table and built-in storage units into which an amazing amount of stuff can be made to disappear. The bathroom is

small, but has a big medicine cahinet, an excellent shower, thick white towels and an electrically heated floor. Not an inch is wasted, but it remains just this side of cramped.

Public spaces are ample, especially the two glass-walled lounges on the top deck in which one can sink into well-npholstered chairs and watch the frequently awe-inspiring scenery go by. The Nordnorge has no swim-ming pool (although there is a small sauna and an exercise room with four machines, two of them bicycles), no casino (unless you count a game room with three video adventures and four slot machines) and only limited entertainment, e.g., a tiny dance floor in the Stella Polaris bar.

We are, however,



being on a ship that navigates among islands and fjords with what seems like only inches to spare. One of the most dramatic events is the northbound approach to the Lofoten Islands, a wall of impenetrable-looking mountains that extends about 60 miles (100 kilometers) from the coast into the sea. They loom ahead as a dark, spiky mass silhouetted against a cloud-scattered blue sky; snow streaks their summits — Norway has had a late, hard winter. As we approach a pair of fierce gray peaks, their slopes change from gray to dragon-skin green, little villages appear at their bases, and a narrow passage opens up, through which the Nordnorge glides.

TURNING ON A DIME

A little farther north, the ship makes a detour for the Trollfjord, slipping into a passageway between almost vertical stone walls. The fjord, which is said to be about 100 meters wide at its entrance, is also less than two miles long; the Nordnorge must, and does, turn on a dime to get out again. The mountains on each side seem near enough to touch, and ring with the sound of dozens of rivulets and waterfalls as the snow melts in the warm sun. Afterward, what is called Trollfjord soup (it seems to be mainly onion) is served on the open afterdeck to restore our nerve.

We stop for several hours in the university city of Tromso, long enough for a look at the town, its Arctic Cathedral (nicer inside than out), and its museum, which has a display of Sami (Lapp) culture that will prepare us for the next day's jaunt to the North Cape. For such visits, the Nordnorge lingers in port longer than it would take to discharge and take on cargo; for other shore ex-

scenery and the sheer excitement of cursions, the buses leave from one port and catch up with the ship at another. Five buses, labeled by language, await us as we disembark for the North

tundra, a lunar landscape streaked by snow and marked by the occasional rock pile or dank tarn. This is the season when the Sami — only about 7,000 of them, or roughly 10 percent, still live as nomads — are encamped with their reindeer herds. The North Cape is the closest thing

Norway can produce to a tourist trap, but it's fun all the same. Said to be the most northern point in Europe (although a little spit of land to the west is slightly more northern), its attractions include a big bar, a bigger gift shop, a small chapel and a series of charming little dioramas representing such visitors as Francesco Negri, an Italian priest who got there in 1664, and King Oscar II of Sweden and Norway, who is shown crawling up the cliff on his hands and knees in 1873.

We have noticed an increase in bird life as we have moved north, and indeed, we have passed near (but not near enough) some famous bird hreeding rocks. But as we approach Kirkenes, our northern terminus, flocks of terms — we recognize them from our bird books -come to us.

We turn around at Kirkenes, then proceed across a bit of open sea. The terns suddenly disappear, to be replaced by sportive kittiwakes, who perform aerobatics beneath our bow. In the distance, a few fat little buzz bombs struggle through the air, we are not close enough to tell for sure, but we guess they are puffins, notoriously clumsy fliers who live in large colonies around here. There are fewer tourists on board for

the southbound leg of the trip, since the contingent that got off at Kirkenes has oot been fully replaced by those going to Bergen. In addition, the weather, which is famously unpredictable (pack sun hats and woollies), and has been, in our case, glorious if occasionally brisk, has begun to change. It is raining in Hammerfest, then misty at midnight in Tromso, requiring the cancellation of an excursion to the top of a funicular to observe the midnight sun.

It is still foggy the next morning in Harstad when we get on the bus. (There are only two now, English-French and German-Norwegian.) Our first stop is at Trondenes church, an austere stone structure built on a windswept headland in the

ture built on a windswept headland in the middle of the 13th century and much restored over the years. We are met by the vicar, a rather gloomy young man, who conducts a brief multilingual service.

INCE we are running early, we have an additional stop a bit later on to examine the Adolf Gun, one of the long-range guns installed by the Nazis to defend the Norwegian coast against an Allied invasion that never came. It was supposed to have a range of 35 miles and it is, needless to say, big and scary. The excursion ends at the little town of Sortland, timed (by dint of much phoning back and forth) so that our buses are crossing a soaring bridge just as the Nordnorge, which we rejoin for lunch, passes underneath.

The afternoon has become dazzling as we make our second pass through the Trollfjord - perhaps even more dramatic this time around, since you really don't see the narrow entrance until you're right on top of it - and the wind is whipping the surface of the water into a million flashing sequins. The shallows are a brilliant jade color, and the ship leaves a turquoise wake. No soup this time, though.

It is a brilliant night. At some point in

the wee hours, we look out our cahin window and there, daughter of the midnight sun, is a great Arctic rainbow. The following days

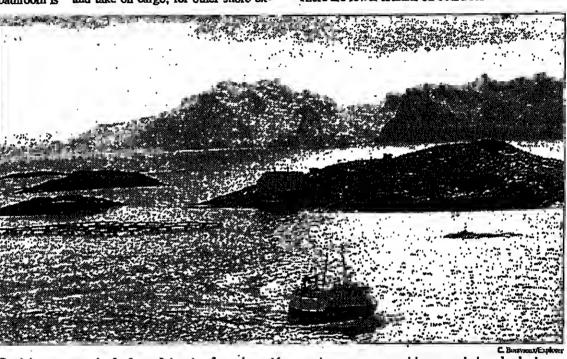
bring other pleasures: a

tour of Trondheim and its medieval cathedral; a detour past Torghatten, a mountain with a strange hole running right through it, the softer geology of central Norway. But it is the memory of the Arctic part of our journey, the elation of the midsum-mer light, that will remain with us longest.

PEMATEN

itte i D. M

Prices for the 12-day cruise range from \$1,295 per person. occupancy. for one of the older ships during the dark months to the nearly \$2,500 a person for the newest ship in high



aboard for the 24-hour Cruising among the Lofoten Islands of northern Norway in summer provides round-the-clock vistas. summer.

Going to the Head of the Class in Salamanca

By Al Goodman

ALAMANCA, Spain — A city that has housed a university since the 13th century is bound to know a few things about intellectual watering holes, and the current crop includes great names like the bars called Cum Laude and La Bibliotheca (The Library).

But as any professor can attest, there's more to a bar than its moniker. Design and amhience are paramount, not to mention a mathematically correct supply of booze. At the head of the class is a madcap, spacious clnb called La Posada de las Almas, or Inn of the Souls, a short walk from the central Plaza Mayor.

The club is the creation of Angel Bajo, from the nearby provincial capital of Zamora, who has done the designs for 10 clubs in town. Far from imitating the sleek, clean lines of the vanguard bars in Barcelona or Madrid, Bajo bets on cheeky period themes, fancy old lamps, graceful mirrors and sleuthful lighting.

The Posada — open daily from 6:30

P.M. to 3 A.M., and closing even later oo weekends — faces the small, quiet Plaza de San Book and in britk into a 10th

de San Boal, and is built into a 19thcentury palace, whose vestiges remain in its large arched stone entrance adorned with sculpted lions and shields.

Inside, the riot of figurines and knick-knacks is meant to convey the feeling of with 100 options, including a small sean old inn of the same name in the city of Zaragoza, the inspiration for the club. The most direct reference is a five-level dollhouse standing 12 feet tall and 22 feet long (4 meters by 7 meters), depicting the interior of a Spanish roadside

inn from the pre-automobile era. The dollhouse is about the only small statement in the entire club, except for the seven little cherubs clinging to columns or a tree trunk on the bar, each one lighted strategically with theatrical-style lamps. On the larger side is the 19-fnot-high ceiling, which gives the club an airy feeling even when it's crowded, a big

smoky nightspots in town. A hlack metal catwalk runs along the hack wall and ents across the front middle section of the Posada. Clients are not allowed up top hut can gaze at the balcony, which features three tables set with wine glasses and lace cloths, although no one ever dines there.

advantage over many other stuffy,

Also toward the ceiling are five out-sized figurines, like the "giants" used in Spanish processions. Watching over the clientele are a king, a queen, a cleric with wrinkled forehead and two helmeted, bloodied warriors, the latter representing death.

It's easy to work up a thirst with so

lection of beer and wines and a broad array of liquors. Coffee, served until about midnight, costs 150 pesetas (\$1) and beer starts at 250 pesetas.

The most expensive drink in the house costs 7,000 pesetas for Ballantine's 30year-old Scotch whisky. Strangely, no one has ordered it during the cluh's twoyear existence, yet the staff shows off the handsome, unopened bottle, if asked.

The music is mainly American and British rock, pop or soul, not quite lond enough to prevent conversation. The quietest corner is near the rear bar. The club oaturally has plenty of college stu-dents — there are 35,000 of them in Salamanca - yet it also attracts a broader range of age groups, especially

OMANCE abounds: a couple locked in embrace at the main, white marble-topped bar, the tall male bartender and the petite slender barmaid showing exceptionally warm co-worker relations when they aren't pouring drinks.

The main bar is decorated with seven hrass lamps, like those formerly found in university libraries, and seven intriguing circular factory molds that once made cookies.

The big clock oo the front wall, stopped at 10 minutes to 7; is purposely left broken. "to give the sense that time doesn't advance" in the club, said Felix Hernandez, who studied law in Salamanca before becoming a partner in the

TIME FOR A CHANGE? But if your own internal clock says that it is getting too late or noisy at the Posada, there is a quick escape just across the plaza at the cozier Café Bar Juanita. The music is softer and the tables stay in place all night, unlike at the Posada, which removes its oumerous tables and chairs at 10:30 P.M. on crowded weekends to make room for more patrons.

Juanita, which opened a year ago, has a cabaret look, with painted wallpaper, an artful ceiling, photos of old film stars and even a few milk pails hanging on the wall. It provides a smooth contrast to the Posada, and not accideotally. The designer for both clubs was the same.

La Posada de las Almas, 7 Plaza de San Boal, (34-23) 269-438, open daily from 6:30 P.M.

Café Bar Juanita, 21 Plaza de San Boal, open daily from 3:30 P.M.

Al Goodman, who writes for The New York Times from Spain, wrote this for the International Herald Tribune.

MOVIE GUIDE

GREAT EXPECTATIONS Directed by Alfonso Cuaron. U.S.

If there's any hope of enjoying "Great Expectations, 'you'd better lower 'em. Start off by purging Charles Dickens from your mind. You must not think of the 19th-century English author whose novel was the basis for this movie. While the movie, which stars Ethan Hawke. Gwyneth Paltrow and Robert De Niro, is passingly reminiscent of its literary source, it's so modernized, so retrofitted (maybe "sampled" is the word) for the MTV nation, you'll have to experience the drama in a different way. Finn (that would be Pip, oh insistently literate ones), played by Hawke, is a pre-teen Gulf Coast beach burn who lives with his fishing uncle (Chris Cooper) and has incipient artistic inclinations. Wading in the ocean one day, sketchbook in hand, he's accosted by an escaped convict (De Niro), who demands assistance. He or-

ders the kid to bring him food and something to break his ankle chains. When Finn (played as a boy by Jeremy James Kissner) returns with the goods, the convict orders him into a motorboat and heads for Mexico. But the Coast Guard patrol intercepts them, leaving the convict hiding behind a buoy and Finn more than ready to return home. Shaken from the experience, Finn gets on with the rest of his life, which includes regular visits to a neighboring, run-down mansion called Paradiso Perduto. The owner, an eccentric woman called Miss Dinsmoor (Anne Bancroft) who (like Dickens's Miss Havisham) lives in a state of jilted mourning, invites Finn to return every week to play with her beautiful, diffident niece, Estella (played at this early stage by Raquel Beaudene). After an erotic kiss at the water fountain, and an extended dance sequence, these kids grow up to become, well, Hawke and

Paltrow. Life unfolds in a sort of musicvideo shorthand, whole lives flitting by in a melange of beautiful images and sensual music. There's nothing wrong, nor particularly right about it. It just sits there, like a Nike ad. (Desson Howe, WP)

AFTERGLOW

Directed by Alan Rudolph, U.S. Maybe there's a more ruefully beautiful screen actress than Julie Christie. But that's hard to imagine while watching her radiant performance in "Afterglow," Alan Rudolph's sinuous romance about a great-looking, long-married couple with a lively extracurricular agenda. Christie, who won a best actress award from the New York Film Critics Circle for her soulful and alluring work here, is as haunting as ever in the role of a middleaged woman who chooses to live emotionally apart from her philandering husband. Lucky Mann, as played with equal

gusto hy Nick Nolte, is a rakish handy man with a long list of grateful female clients. And while "Afterglow" gets as much pun mileage as possible out of s moniker ("He must be lucky." Oh! I find him very different from Lucky."), it also finds something genuinely smoldering in Lucky's escapades. Even after the film's last half-bour descends into a silly season, Rudolph writes and directs with obvious affection for his characters and with a deep knowledge of whatever makes them tick. "Afterglow" does seem sincere in trying to understand what happens to marriage after the initial passion burns down into something less fiery but perhaps more sustaining. (Janet Maslin, NYT)

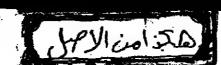
FALLING INTO THE EVENING Directed by Naoe Gozu, Japan, The producer of "Maboroshi" here

makes her debut as director. That this

Scene from "Great Expectations."

film somewhat resembles that prizewinning picture, by Hirokazu Koreida, is to be expected. It was shot by the same cameraman, Masao Nakabori, and it

shares a theme — incomprehension in the face of death. A couple together for four years breaks up. The reason is another woman. When she appears, however, she wants to live not with the boy but with the girl. An odd situation develops—one of them calls it a ntopia. And it cootinues until the odd girl out kills herself. Gozu adapted her script from the oovel by Kaori Ekuni, who wrote the original for Joji Mat-suoka's excellent "Twinkle," about an equally troilistic utopia — two boys and one girl. Here, however, death stops the fun and insists upon a seriousness with which the couple canoot cope. Odd, beautiful, grave, this film was made almost entirely by womеп (producer, director, design, music, editing) and confronts head-on a theme that concerns everyone. What you do when what you lived dies? (Donald Richie, IHT)



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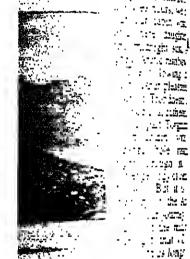
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Art Gallery of Ontario, tel: (416) 977-0414, closed Mondays and Tuesdaya. To May 3: "Julia Margaref Cameron: The Creative Process," Ninety works by tha Victorian photographer (1815-1879). Includes studies of personalities of her time, and later work created in



Jaguar XJ8 Sedan: Beauty and Utility

By Gavin Green

F cars were objects of art, rather than objects of ntility, Jaguar would probably be the world's most admired manufacturer. Instead, it has been lumbered with a reputation for building very beautiful cars appallingly.

This frangibility goes back to the early Jaguars. They were beautiful, badly made cars partly because William Lyons, the company founder and the inspiration behind the older models, was obsessed with using the cheapest possible parts. This helped keep prices low. The flip side was that you often needed a second car, to use as transport

When, in 1968, Jaguar became part of the huge and horrihle British Leyland miasma -a group so ineptly managed, so badly guided (by politicians) and so inexpertly staffed that it evenrually bore most of the responsibility for the death of the indigenous British car industry — things got even worse. And it has only really improved over the past few years, since new owner, Ford, has seen the fruits of its shakeup. Now,

They are tolerably well made, too. The most receot J.D. Power customer-satisfaction survey in the United States rated them ahead of BMW, and virtually equal with Mercedes-Benz. What's more, Jaguar, as a company, is booming. Production will double this time next year, wheo a new midsize model goes on sale. And, in 2001, production will double agaio when a rival to the BMW 3-series hits the road. Jaguar is now a company with a future, instead of merely a past.

Jaguars are not just very lovely cars.

MIX AND MATCH

10 to 10

Annual of the Land

Its newest model is the XJ8 sedan. Until the smaller sedans come on stream, it is the only four-door in the range. It is available with three different engines - a 3.2-liter V8 (as tested). a 4.0 and, if that's oot fast enough, a 4.0-liter supercharged model tagged the

XJR. Long- and short-wheelbase versions add to the mix.

Engines bave oever been the company's strongest point. Jaguars are more about graceful shapes, supple ride comfort and classic drawing room-type cab-ins. The new XJ8 has all those virtues, but its new V8 is also terrific. It's smooth and light and compact. The only downside is fuel consumption, which can be worryingly immoderate if pushed. The German-huilt ZF automatic transmission is smooth enough, if not quite as quick-shifting and seamless as the better BMW or Mercedes enginetransmission combinations.

The ride quality is outstanding, and the handling is surprisingly assured too, considering the car's hulk. The steering is when the Jag was throwing tanTHE CAR COLUMN Still too vague, and the car still heaves a little wheo driven briskly on undulating roads. But

it's better than before. The cahin is revised, and all the better for it. Rear-seat room is still cramped in the normal wheelbase versions, fine if you plump for the long-wheelbase models. The trunk is tiny and badly shaped, It's much more impressive up front, where the dashboard

T does feel special. It wafts along majestically, cosseting you in a driving environment from an earlier and more pampered era. And, with the new engine and Ford-inspired quality updates, it is oow quiet and fast and well-made, a car that starts to make some practical sense instead of one that purely fuels your passions.

has a deeper plank of walnut veneer to

ram home the old Edwardian drawing-

It is still not as practical as Germany's or Japan's best, but that's not wby you

buy a Jaguar. Jaguar XJ8 3.2. About \$55,000. V8 engine, 3248cc, 240 bbp at 6,350 rpm. Five-speed automatic transmission. rear-wheel drive. Maximum speed: 215 kpb (133 mph). Acceleratioo: 0-100 kph in 7.7 seconds. Average fuel consumption: 13.6 liters/100km.

Next: New Volkswagen Beetle.

Gavin Green is the editor in chief af

High Tea in an Old Raj Hill Station in India

By David Pinault

ARJEELING, India — The Bagdogra-Darjeeling road begins in bot, steamy flat-land, flanked by bamboo thickets and banana froods, then rises and corkscrews among the hills. The vegetation changes: silver fir, rhododendron, maple, oak. From the window of our hired van, my wife, Jody, and I saw tea plantations with weathered placards bearing oames like Longview and Margaret's Hope, Womeo with baskets plucked at tea shrubs and called to

each other as we drove by.

The air grew cooler, moister. Mist gathered and the sky darkeoed. By the time we reached Darjeeling in the late afternooo, rain was drumming dowo and we were cold ecough to put on

It was in search of this cool air that I'd first come to Darjeeling six years ago. I'd spent the summer of 1991 documenting religious festivals in central India. Ten weeks of the plains had tired me out. Crowds and noise, noostop heat, relentless sun.

Darjeeling - the oame had caught my fancy. Tea country. An old outpost of the British Raj. Altitude: 7,100 feet (2,160 meters). And the Windamere Hotel in Darjeeling, with buildings dating from 1862, proved to be the ideal

After e three-hour drive from Bagdogra, we arrived at the Windamere in time for afternoon tea. the first of many pleasant rituals I remembered from my last stay there. Before dinner we borrowed an umbrella and wandered the hotel grounds. A brochure in the lobby told us that in the 19th century this had been a boardinghouse for bachelor English tea planters, and as we walked about we saw a handful of cottages grouped around the dining hall and perched oear the summit of Ohservatory Hill. There are 35 rooms in the complex including about 6 in an annex. We stayed in the main lodge. Wheo the sky cleared, we were able to see Kanchenjunga and other peaks of the Sikkimese Himalayas.

SACRED SITE

We woke early the oext morning to chanting and the muffled ringing of bells. Through the mist we could see a long line of people following a path that skirted the hotel and continued up Ob-servatory Hill. We dressed and followed them until we reached Mahakal, a site sacred to Buddhists and Hindus alike. In ceoturies past a monastery stood bere - Dorje-Ling, "the place of the thunderbolt," from which Darjeeling takes its name. The ambience was eclectic: In one shrine, a Brahmin priest and a Tibetan monk sat facing each other chanting prayers; in another, pil-grims gathered before statues of the Hindu goddess Kali trampling underfoot her consort Siva, while overhead fluttered prayer flags that were stamped with the Boddhist wind-horse of the MACHINE BEAUTY: ntain passe



The Ghoom monastery, home to the Buddha of the future.

Back in Darjeeling, we wandered down the hill to the Chowrasta, a plaza closed to vehicle traffic. The plaza serves as the main square of upper Dareeling. Here are clustered booksmres, fahric stalls and some of the finest curio shops in India, their shelves crammed with curiosities like prayer wheels and Hindu bronzes, Chinese porcelain and thangka scroll-hangings, polished stones, silver skulls mounted as pendant jewelry and old Tibetan currency notes fancifully eograved with crimson snow lions. The goods on display in all these shops provide evidence of Darjeeling's traditional role as a frontier town and trade ceoter for the kingdoms of Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan.

RAJ OUTPOST One of the most popular outposts of the British Raj, Darjeeling, with a population of 200,000, still draws visitors from all over the subcontineot and beyond. Rows of houses rise along a steep ridge, frequently obscured by mists from the valleys. From upper Darjeeling, one can see the forests of the Himalayan foothills; in clear weather there are distant views of Kanchenjunga and the other mountain peaks of Sikkim.

We sat oo a bench in the Chowrasta and watched the parade: Bengali tourisis from the plains bundled in sweaters and woolen scarves against the highland chill, entrepreoeurs leading diminutive ponies and offering 10-minute rides, European backpackers, Lepcha and Nepali hill folk, monks in burgundy robes. We were glimpsing Darjeeling as seen by middle-class Indian vacationers from Calcutta or Delhi.

The morning after my most recent arrival in Darjeeling, Jody and I walked along one of the pedestrian footpaths to the old British Gymkhana Club. S.K. Ghissing, a retired banker and the assistant secretary of the club, explained that it bad been established in 1909 as an amusement center for the elite of Darjeeling society - planters and district magistrates, amoog others.

Today, the cluh is primarily used by affluent Darjeeling residents or well-todo Indian vacationers. Temporary memberships are available to foreign tourists. Perhaps the most harmonious mingling of past and present in Dar-jeeling occurs at the Lloyd Botanical Gardens. To get there we desceoded from the Chowrasta to the lower bazaar and the nonstop hlare of the hus station, where we dodged food vendors, vehicles crowded with produce and hill folk bound for Gangtok and Siliguri.

Just beyond the station is a narrow lane leading to the entrance to the garden. Admission is free; and we followed a path that took us down through landscaped slopes, past azaleas and beds of poppies and daisies, until we'd escaped the bus station noise altogether.

Before us stood deodar pines, palms and an aged Chinese redwood, its limbs twisted and gnarled. Paths crisscross the park; in the quiet we chose one that led us to a large Victorian conservatory, its glass roof topped with wrought-iron curlicues. Within were pots of orchids and hirds of paradise surrounding a pool filled with goldfish. Nearby were smaller greenhouses and a pond beside a gazebo.

N our return from the garden we stopped in the lower bazaar. Very different from the Chowrasta's relatively pricey tourist shops, the stalls and kiosks here are oriented to customers from the town. Since the late 1950s Darjeeling has been home to a sizable number of Tibetan refugees, many of whom work in the bazaar. This is the neighborhood to go to for fruit and spices, multicolored devotional posters of Lord Siva entwined with cobras and cheap block-print prayer flags stamped with figures of the Buddha. We bought pahari bananas — small, sweet and about 3 ceots apiece. We later took one of my favorite expeditions from Darjeeling: a day trip to Ghoom Monastery, bome to the Buddha Maitreya (the Buddha of the future, a figure of grace who will hring deliverance from sorrow) via the Toy Train - a narrow-gauge steam locomotive that pulls a string of small-scale passenger cars along tracks laid down

by the British more than a ceotury ago. Before leaving Darjeeling, Jody and I visited one of several "tea gardens" (or plantations) that welcome visitors. At Happy Valley, within walking distance of the Windamere, we watched pickers at work among the fields of tea shrubs; then we entered one of the factory sheds to see the machines that subject the leaves in drying, rolling and pressing.

The Darjeeling Tea Planters' Club, perched above Nehru Road only a few minutes' stroll from the Windamere. still hosts tea tasting sessions for the Darjeeling Planters Association, where judges sample the first "flusb" (or picking, said to be the best) and second flush from nearby tea gardens. Founded in 1868 and once a center for much of the town's social life, today the cluh survives as a hotel. The dining room has cupboards filled with regimeotal silver from members of the Northern Bengal Volunteer Rifles. We sat in the bar and studied the series of watercolors by Snaffles, a British artist popular during the Raj for his illustrations of sporting scenes. My favorite was a painting entitled "The Finest View in Asia" tusked boar rushing through tall grass, pursued by a lancer on horseback.

TEA PLANTATIONS We made several shopping trips to Laden La Road, where a oumber of stores (Nathmull's is one of the most reputable) sell packets of loose tea. It's not enough to ask for Dar-jeeling: A clerk told us that there are 79 tea estates in the district, each growing its own distinctive strain. My own favorite was Makaibari, which offers a distinctive brew with a peculiar smoky tang: "the Scotch of Darjeeling teas," according to ooe advertisement.

A good way to end any shopping expedition in Darjeeling is at Glenary's, a tearoom that offers fine pastries and retains its Victorian ambiance. It's a quiet retreat in the afternoon. Our last day in Darjeeling, we shared a table at Gleoary's with an elderly retired Englishman who sat reading a Peoguin translation of the 'Dhammapada.' 'How long are you here for?'' I asked. "Either until I finish reading the Buddhist scriptures," he said with a smile, "or until I finish sampling all the teas in Darjeeling."

David Pinault, an associate professor of religious studies at Santa Clara University in California, wrote this for The New York Times.

ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

20er Haus, tef: (1) 799-6900, closed Mondays. To March 15: Two Avant-Garde Positions from France: Jean Jecques Lebel, The Situationist International 1957-1972." Paintings., drawings, collages, videos, and musical scores of happenings and actions per-formed between 1951 and today bear witness to the French artist's importance in European art. Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel:

(1) 525-24403, closed Mondays. To April 14: "Bruegel: Tradition und Fortschritt." The axhibition brings together 12 paintings by Pieter 8ruegel the Elder and approxi-metely 20 works on paper and 200 paintings by his two sons. Jan Brueghal the Elder (1568-1625) was a painter of flowers and still-life, while Plater Breughel the Younger (1564-1637) copied his father'e work thus meking it famil

BELGIUM

De Vlaamse Opera, tel: (9) 225-24-25. Handel's "Semale." Conducted by Robert Carsen, directed by Mark Minkowski, with Rosemary Joshua and Charles Workman. Feb. 8, 11, 15, 17 and 19. The work will be performed in Antwerp, tel: (3) 233-66-85, on Feb. 28 and 28.

BRITAIN

English National Opera, tel: (171) 632-8300. The company's first production of Donizetti's "Elixtr of Love." Conducted by Michael Lloyd, with Barry Banks and Mary Plazas. Feb. 7, 10, 14, 19 and 21.
Heyward Gallery, tel: (171) 9283144, open dally. To April 5: "Henri
Cartier-Bresson: Europeans." With more than 180 prints, Cartier-Bresson portrays a changing Europe over half a century, including events such as the coronation of George VI and the Paris riots of 1968, and people, from Russian washer-women to Italian priests. Also, to April 5: Francis Bacon: The Human Body." Brings together paintings from 1945 to the mid-1980s that focus on the human figure, Bacon's central subject. The paintings, both single canvases and triptychs, range from recognizable portraits to bodies wracked by violent distortion or the

CANADA



Tang Dynasty "Rearing Dragon." in New York.

Quarant'anni." Feafures works by

more than 70 contemporary Italian

sic and Mirnmo Paledino.

NAPLES

artists, such as Adami, Zoran Mu-

Teatro di San Carlo, tel: (81) 79-

72-301. Verdi's 'Macbeth." Direc-

ted by Hugo De Ana, conducted by

Gianluigi Gelmetti, with Michela Pertusi/Renee Flaming/Darlna

Takova, Giuseppe Sabbatini/Mar-

cello Giordani and Sonia Ganassi

Daniela Barcellona. Feb. 10, 13,

Opera de Monte-Carlo, tel: (377)

92-16-22-99. "Tristan und Isoids."

Directed by Dieter Kaegi, conduc-

ted by Guenter Neuhold, with

Hainz Kruse and Karen Huffstodt.

METHERLANDS

Kunsthal, tel: (10) 44-00-321, closed Mondays. To April 5: "Hen-

riette Ronner-Knip, 1821-1909; Cat Paintings from tha Bella

Epoque." Ronner-Knip was ona of

the most celebrated portraitst of

animals in the Netherlands. Her

fame is largely due to her renderings of cats, with approximately 100 presented in the show.

15, 18, 21 and 24.

MONTE-CARLO

Fab. 9. 12 and 15.

ROTTERDAM

MONACO

FRANCE

Theatre du Chatelet, tel: 01-40-28-28-40. Pater Setara la directing the new English version of Gyorgy Ligeti's "Le Grand Macabre." Esa-Pekka Salonen is conducting, with Sibylle Ehlert, Laura Claycomb and Derek Lee Ragin, Feb. 7, 9, 11 and 13.

Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, tel: 01-53-67-40-00, closed Mondays. To May 17: "Lumiere du Monde, Lumiere du Clai." A survey of 20th-century art in Scandinavia Features, among others, 60 paintings by Edvard Munch, paintings and photo-graphs by August Strindberg, and drawings by Carl Fredrik Hill.

GERMANY

Oper der Stadt Bonn, tel: (228) 77-36-66. Shostakovich a "Lady Macbeth von Mzensk." Directed by Diatrich Hilsdorf, conducted by Wolfgang Ott, with Jayne Cassel-man in the title rola. Feb. 8 (premiere), 12 and 28.

ITALY

Galleria d'Arte Modema, tel: (51) 50-28-59, closed Mondays. To March 8: "Arte Italiana: Utimi

SPAIN

BARCELONA Fundacio Joan Miro, tel: (3) 329-1908, closed Mondays. To March 15: "Liza Lou: The Backyard." The American artist (born 1969) presents an installation that reproduces the typical American garden, and is mada of millions of colored beads.

VALENCIA '
IV AM Centre Julio Gonzalez, (6) 386-3000, closed Mondays. To May 5: "Mexicana: Fotografia Moderne en Mexico, 1923-1940." Photographs by Maxican and foreign artists, such as Manuel Alvarez Bravo, Anton Bruahl, Cartier-Bresson. The works data back to the errival of Edward Weston and Tina Modoti in 1923 and end in 1940, tha year of tha International Surrealist exhibition promoted by Andre Breton.

UNITEDSTATES

NEW ORLEANS

Museum of Art, tel: (504) 488-2631, closed Mondays. To April 11: "Sacred Arts of Haitian Voodoo." Explores the arts produced within the Afro-Caribbean religion with flags, dolfs, musical instruments, medicine packets and paintings.

Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, tel: (212) 860-6894, closed Mondeys. To April 12: "Tha Jewels of Lalique." Rene Lalique (1860-1945) used all the goldsmith's techniques to design art nouveau jewelry that epitomized an era. The exhibition focuses on tha lewelry and on his first works in class before World War I. Solomon R. Guggenheim Mu-seum, tel: (212) 423-3840, closed

Thursdays. To June 3 and Gug-genthelm Museum SoHo, tel: (212) 423-3840, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To May 25: "China: 5,000 Years." Several hundred antworks ranging in date from 3000 B.C. to the modern era; from recently unearthed archaeological discoveries to large-scale stone Buddhist sculpture, from 12th and 13th century landscape painting to modern works in oil and woodblock. The modern section explores the 150 years of Chinese art and is shown af the SoHo branch. The joint exhibition will travel to the Guggenheim

Museum in Blibao, Spain in July. **CLOSING SOON**

Feb. B: "Victorian Fairy Painting." Royal Academy, London. Feb. 8: "New Art from Denmark and Scania." Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humleback. Feb. 8: "King of the World: A Mughal Manuscript from the Royal Library, Windsor Castle" and "Jackson Pollock: Sketchbooks and Drawings." Metropolitan Mu-

seum of Art, New York.

Elegance and the Heart of Technology

By David Gelernter, Illustrated, 166 'pages, \$20. The Master Minds Series/ Basic Books/Perseus Baoks LLC.

Reviewed by

Christopher Lehmann-Haupt

BEAUTY as a subject is so com-plexly open-ended that one quails at the prospect of an entire book devoted to it, even one as slim and limited in its scope as David Gelernter's highly instructive 'Machine Beauty: Elegance and the Heart of Technology." Yei Gelernter, who leaches computer

science at Yale, simplifies matters considerably by opening his book with the statement, "The sense of beauty is a tuning fork in the brain that hums when we stumble on something beautiful." He cuts quickly to the heart of his subject hy defining the "beauty of a proof or machine" as "a happy marriage of simplicity and power — power meaning the ability to accomplish a wide range of tasks, get a lot done." Nor will many readers argue with his conclusion that a beautifully designed machine, like the Hoover Dam or Henry Dreyfuss's 1937 telephone, creates an illusion of "in-evitability," or "the impression that you are looking at the pure visual em-

bodiment of science or engineering." In any case, what Gelernter is really concerned with is not so much beauty in machines as a present crisis of complexity be sees occurring in the writing of computer software. In his view, oeedless features get added to programs perfectly good as they were (like Microsoft Word's addition of the power to include video clips and voice announcements in one's written documents), and new programs have grown so unwieldy that they have to be "beta tested" or handed out

Gelernter compares to the ancient practice of designating tasters to sample potentially poisonous dishes for po-What brought oo this software crisis?

BOOKS

Ignorance of beauty oo the part of computer programmers, writes Gelernter, which stems from a combination of had training and a pervasive attitude that to be coocerned with beauty is somehow irrelevant to the supposedly nonintuitive demands of technology. "Beau-tiful technology is unmanly," Gelernter

writes ironically; "elegance is sissy."
To illustrate what he calls the "beauty paradox," Gelernter traces the emergence of the Apple Macintosh with its hit-mapped screen display, its icons, its overlapping windows, its double-clicking mouse, its menu bar and its ability to call up files without the user having to accurately type their oames. Why didn't this system win out over its rivals, he asks, given the elegance of its design and the way users instinctively grasped its desktop metaphor?

Because it was too elegant, Gelernter argues: "To pay money for elegant technology is to seem unserious, selfindulgeot, and arguably incompeteot. And so Microsoft's clumsier DOS prevailed overwhelmingly in the marketplace. And Microsoft ate the cake, too, by developing Windows 95, a variation of the desktop system.

To illustrate machine beauty, Gelemier describes an alternative to the desktop system that was developed hy several of his graduate students and himself. Its most obviously appealing feature is that it would allow one to gain access to personal data (correspondence, bank-account balances, telephooe-cooversation transcripts, writings, journal entries and so forth) from any computer terminal anywhere.

Through the use of an "expert data-

to expert users "in hopes they will find base" system and other sophisticated some of the remaining hugs," a policy search engines, one could riffle through past, present and future records as if scanning the daily mail. Gelernter doesn't defend this as necessarily the most elegant option. He describes it merely to illustrate that an alternative to the seemingly inevitable desktop system

is at least conceivable. Plenty can be faulted about "Machine Beauty." It has been this reviewer's understanding that a major reason for Microsoft's triumph over the Macintosh was not so much consumers' repugnance with the Macintosh's cuteness as Apple's failure to attract programs as sophisticated as those developed for DOS and, subsequently, Windows. As for Gelernter's hlanket endorse-

ment of aesthetics as a solution to the software crisis he sees, one questions his insistence that absolute standards of beauty have been consistent in all cultures at all times, and, no matter what these standards may be, one wooders if any sense of the beautiful can be taught to those who lack it instinctively. Some of Gelernter's laments about

what be calls the dumhing down of contemporary America sound like the petulant carping of someone who really doesn't know what is bothering him. And, incidentally, his complaints about the technical shortcomings of the computer mouse seem to ignore the exissence of the tonchpad, which can be activated merely by sliding your finger over or tapping an electronically sensitive surface.

All the same, "Machine Beauty" describes with impressive clarity the development of a machine that turned out to be useful "for reasons beyond what the inventors originally intended." For anyone still wondering what purposes the personal computer will serve in the future, "Machine Beauty" glimpses some of the ultimate and exciting answers.

New York Times Service

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

S AD bridge stories are of-ten extremely funny, unless you are the sufferer. One of the saddest, and funniest, of the decade was reported by Zia Mahmood in his hridge column in The Guardian in oo-trump, just what Eddie suit. South won with the king, Britain. The sufferer in the East seat on the diagramed deal was a touring profession-

al named Eddie.

from the bidding.

partner to act and was pre- and South would bave taken a paring to open one no-trump beart finesse. The result when his left-hand opponent made that bid, out of turn. three depending oo West's had to score two more, the West could bave accepted next move. this irregular action, but chose not to do so and North was now barred permanently thought, might have bid a that no other player had

clubs if South became de- club lead. clarer.

and took a wild stab at three took the ace and returned the wanted. He had indicated a led the heart ace, and looked club lead, and that would in- happy when the king ap- 4 118432 deed have destroyed the contract. Dummy would have Eddie was waiting for his won the third round of clubs hearts.

three-card club suit. That is an reached.

West and North passed and improbable assumption in wanted his partner to lead. South must be prepared for a know it.

West led the spade jack, South now had to guess, and Eddie gritted his teeth. He peared. South cashed the spade queen and ran the \$108642 hearts.

He was oow up to eight tricks, and when he played the would have been down two or diamond ace and another he clob king and the diamond But West was in the grip of jack. He had made an overtwo delusions. His partner, he trick in a game contract

If you meet Eddie at a Eddie oow changed his mind normal circumstances and tournament somewhere, be about opening one no-trump, was inconceivable in this will want to tell you this and bid one cluh instead. He context. And he thought that story. Tell him you already

> NORTH Q98642 ♦878 WEST (D) **◆** A 7 6 O KO ♣A Q 10 5 4 SOUTH ♠KQ8 VAQJ7 **♣**J73 Both sides were vulnerable. The

bidding: South West (1 N.T.) Pass 3 N.T. Pass West led the spade jack.

INTERNATIONAL

ORIGINS: Window on an Ancient Epoch

Continued from Page 1

tually no clear fossil evidence of multicellular plant or animal life from that time period.

The new trove, found in a blanket of rock in southern China called the Doushantto Formacon, dating from 570 million years ago (give or take 20 million years), demonstrates dramatically that the "long and lightless" period known as the Precambrian is no longer beyond the reach of direct scientific investigation, researchers said.

The complexity of the Dousbantuo fossils suggests that mulcicellular life originated much earlier than the 600 million year estimate some researchers have proposed.

According to a research team led by Shuhai Xiao of Harvard — with Andrew Knoll, also of Harvard, and Yun Zhang of Beijing University — the fossils provide "the first direct geological evidence in support of the hypothesis" that the main groups of multicelled organ-isms "diversified before the emergence of a conspicuous animal fossil record."

The history of life, as written in the fossil record, stretches from molds of microscopic bacteria in rocks almost 4 billion years old through bones of bumans formed in ice-age gravel beds a few thousand years ago. But virtually all the major animal body plans seen on Earth today blossomed in a sudden riotous evolutionary springtime that began about 540 million years ago, in what is known as the Cambrian ex-

Scientists had been confounded in their attempts to study the important period that set the stage for that remarkable flowering, presumably be-cause life at that time was limited to softer packaging: worms, jellyfish and most of the life cycle of a microscopic the like, which had no bones or shells to animal, or the embryonic stage of a

leave behind as fossils. Researchers say the few impressions and traces of the period found until now — primarily from a group known as the Ediacaran are so ambiguous that they have produced little more than arguments and confusion

But the Doushantuo discovery, described by two teams of scientists in separate papers being published in this week's issues of the journals Nature and Science, have 'really opened np a new way of looking for an older record of animals,' Mr. Knoll said in a telephone interview. "It's as though the fog has

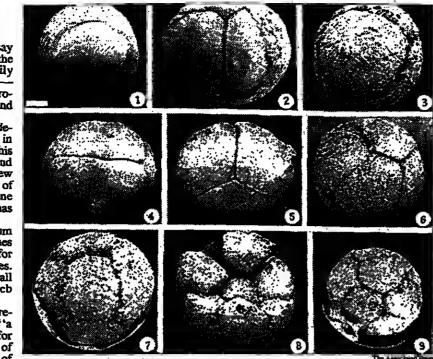
The key to the preservation is calcium phosphate, the familiar mineral of bones and teeth, known (in powder form) for its faithful replication of delicate tissues. But because it tends to occur in small patches, only fossils of a third of an incb or smaller typically are retained.

The 90-square-kilometer (35-square-mile) Doushantuo deposits provide "a

potentially inexhaustible resource for understanding the early evolution of life," concluded the second team of Chia-Wei Li and Tzu-En Hua, both of National Tsing Hua University, in Hsin-chu, Taiwan; and Jun-Yuan Chen, of the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology, in Nanjing.

The embryos may be the earliest known remains of "bilaterians," a more complex group than those of sponges or jellyfish. Bilaterians bad developed a head and rear, with near-symmetrical left and right sides. That lineage includes "everything from flatworms to us," Mr. Knoll said.

The researchers noted that it was impossible to say exactly what type of adult animal the embryos would have grown into, and whether the fossils represent



A composite view showing some of the fossilized animal embryos at various stages of development: from a single fertilized egg to various multicelled units. The Precambrian fossils are nearly 600 million years old.

productive features seen in modern marine flora, the researchers said.

Not only do the fossils provide the first convincing glimpse of this crucial period, "but the quality of preservation is almost unheard of, even in much younger fossils," according to Stefan Bengtson, a leading expert not on either team. He discusses both teams' work in

Nature, in an accompanying article.

The preservation "offers insights into

much larger animal.

The Doushantuo collection shows that Precambrian algae already had attained many of the anatomical and remained many of the anatomical anatomical and remained many of the anatomical anatomi investigation in fossils.

The Doushantuo fossils were found on the slopes of a mine in central Guizhon Province, about 600 kilometers (370 miles) southwest of the Yangtze Gorges. The workers are mining the phosphate-rich rock for use as fertil-

'Yes." Mr. Knoll said, "it's safe to say that some of the greatest fossils in the world are now fertilizer."

ASEAN: Japan's Neighbors Issue Warning

Continued from Page 1

volved in moves to reschedule huge private-sector loans that threaten to cripple trade and business in several of the worst-hit countries, including Indonesia and Thailand.

Mr. Anwar said in an interview with Renters that in Tokyo next week he would discuss 'some other measures that we are planning together" to make sure that the Japanese are "more forthcoming and effective in their program, both nationally in terms of their reform package and also to take a greater lead and responsibility in the region."

Among the measures, analysts said, is a proposal put forward by Singapore under which a group of Indonesia's leading trading partners, including Japan, would agree to guarantee payment for Indonesian imports.

Because of the plunge in the value of the Indonesian currency, the rupiah, and lack of confidence in the Indonesian banking system, foreign banks have stopped accepting letters of credit issued by Indonesian banks. As a result, trade threatens to grind to a halt and with it any region would continue to shrink. hopes Indonesia has of exporting its way to economic stabili

said he had already written to the Japanese government expressing the sentiments of ASEAN.

replied: "I think there is room for im- economic development by its trade and provement, and I think they should be investments. more forthcoming compared to what has happened in the past, although I do certainly welcome their speedy and effective support, particularly for Thailand and Indonesia

that Japan was not doing nearly enough to belp end the economic crisis in Asia, the Japanese deputy minister of finance

for international affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, said last week that Tokyo was the largest single contributor to the multihillion-dollar rescue loans for Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea.

But ASEAN remains unconvinced and impatient for faster improvements. Many U.S. officials and economists fear that East Asian nations will try to export their way out of trouble by flooding the American market with cheap goods, undercutting local manufacturers and threatening U.S. jobs. The parallel fear among many South-

east Asian officials is that unless Japan does more to absorb that flood of goods hy stimulating domestic demand and putting its banking system on a stronger footing, the United States, under pressure from protectionist lobhies acting through Congress, will impose curbs on East Asian imposts East Asian imports.

Lee Knan Yew, Singapore's senior minister, said recently in Thailand that the downturn in Japan's economy had slowed economic growth in East Asia and that if Japan's hanks continued to languish, its loans and investments in the

"A strong Japanese economy will help ecovery by boosting our exports Mr. Anwar, who held talks with Pressaid. "Japan can do more to stimulate its the national currency, the Zimbahwe ident Subarto in Jakarta on Thursday, economy by reducing taxes, like the re-dollar, which lost 75 percent of its value cent cuts in personal income tax, and by against the U.S. dollar on one day in

doing enough to help the region, he Asia, Japan had played a key role in our costs late last year.

must take decisive measures to resolve mote reforms. But the government has its banking problems by injecting public funds into the country's banking sector In response to criticism in the West to restore bank capital ratios to international levels. Then Japanese hanks can play their role in getting the economy bumming again.'

CLINTON: Independent Counsel Issues His Strongest Defense of Investigation to Date Charles Ruff, that left the president's them whatsoever at this point --- none the scandal, Mr. Clinton repeatedly emphasized that he needed to get back to the

nation's business. Mr. Blair, one of Mr. Clinton's closest political and personal allies, urged Americans to focus on their president's accomplishments.

"You've just got to have some sense of balance and perspective about the issues that really matter to people," he said on

You have a president who is doing a superb job, who has buge respect and standing on the international stage." Mr. Blair added, "To me that is what

Mr. Starr said Thursday that his invesogation was "moving very quickly, and we have made very significant pro-

On Wednesday, the grand jury in Washington heard from Bayani Nelvis, the chief White House steward, and Kris Engskov, a presidential assistant and friend of Mr. Clinton's since his Arkan-

The Washington grand jury also heard on Thursday from another former White House intern, Justin Coleman, who said he had worked in the "immediate office of the president" from August 1997 to January 1998, beginning more than a year after Ms. Lewinsky left the White House but during a period when she

allegedly made several visits there.
Mr. Coleman, now a student at Brown
University, told reporters. "1 at no ome bad any knowledge of any relationship, proper or improper, between the presideni and Ms. Lewinsky." Four other witnesses bave made similar state-

Mr. Engskov, who testified Wednesday afternoon, took up his position in

were interested in the nature of Ms. Lewinsky's last visit to the White House, on Dec. 28, after she had been subpoenaed to testify in the Paula Jones

mann-Straussler-Scheinker disease. The new version of the protein, known as a prion, is different from the ones believed to cause bovine spongiform encephalopathy, also known as mad cow disease; Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a rare and fatal human brain

BRIEFLY

U.S. Pledges Food

partment spokesman, James Rubin,

noted that the U.S. contribution would

amount to 30 percent of the request by the UN World Food Program. The agency appealed Jan. 6 for 657,972 tons of food aid worth \$378 million. It

was the largest appeal by the agency.

The aid will be provided in three

parcels over a ooe-year period starting in April, Mr. Rubin said. (Reuters)

Mexican Disparages

WASHINGTON — Foreign Minister Rosario Green said Wednesday that Mexico rejected the U.S. process

of evaluating other natious' efforts to fight drug trafficking.

The White House must report to

Congress every year on the and-drug efforts of about 30 countries involved in

"I did not come to discuss certi-

producing or trafficking in narcotics.

fication because Mexico does not ac-

cept certification," the new foreign

minister said in Washington (Reuters)

WASHINGTON - Researchers

said Thursday that they had discovered a new form of a brain protein linked

New Brain Protein

Linked to Disease

U.S. Certification

For North Korea

WASHINGTON — The United States will provide 200,000 metric tons of food aid to North Korea, which illness, or scrapie in sheep.
In the journal Science, Ramanujan has suffered a three-year series of crop Hegde and a team at the University of California at San Francisco wrote that disasters, in response to a United Na-tions appeal for bumanitarian aid, the State Department said Thursday. they first found the prion in the brains In announcing the decision, the de-

Moi Imposes Curfew In Kenyan Hot Spot

NAIROBI, Kenya — President Daniel arap Moi imposed a night curfew Thursday on all urban centers in parts of the Rift Valley area where more than 100 people have died in ethnic violence since Jan. 11.

The Presidential Press Service said that all businesses in Nakuru district would have to close between 9 P.M. and 6 A.M. and that police would arrest 'anyone loitering.'
Mr. Moi was quoted as threatening

that "businessmen of a certain com-munity," who he said were funding the violent activities, "will have their busi-ness licenses reviewed." (Reuters)

A Rio Train Robbery

RIO DE JANEIRO - Thieves ambushed a Brazilian tourist train and rohbed 42 foreigners returning from Rio de Janeiro's famed mountaintop statue of Christ the Redeemer, the police said. The tourists, including three dozen teenage exchange students, had cameras and cash stolen, the police said, but no one was injured.

The robbers forced the train to stop by blocking the tracks with branches and rocks. Military police scoured a with "mad cow" disease that causes nearby slum in search of suspects but the rare human brain illness Gerst-made no immediate arrests. (Reuters)

ZIMBABWE: Discontent Boils Over

Continued from Page 1

African Regional Institute for Policy

"This is a series of mutinies," said Morgan Tsvangirai, secretary-general of the 300,000-member Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, which called the one-day strike in December and has threatened to do it again.

In response to the riots, the government ordered the commeal price in-crease rescinded. It had acted similarly in response to the December labor strike, when it withdrew a new wage levy. Mr. Mugabe also has established a ministerial commission to look into price levels, the crash of the currency, market competition and ways of creating jobs.

Unemployment is 50 percent. The government has also assured international lenders that it will reduce state spending and privatize state assets. It will also try to restore confidence in nese government expressing the senments of ASEAN.

Asked whether he thought Japan was

increasing public spending."

November, and try to rehuild the foreign
reserves, which were so depleted that the
government had trouble covering import

> The International Monetary Fund said investments." last week that it might soon approve
> Now 'Japan must quickly get its
> economy back into bealth," he said. "It
> support to ease the crisis and help propromised reform before, then abruptly

shifted course for political expediency. The current crisis stems from the domino effect of a series of economic calamities set in motion by corruption charges last year, beginning in March. Faced with allegations that Mr. Mugabe's ministers and other high ofveterans of the liberation war, the govemment suspended payments while it investigated who got the money and

not have from the fund. Veterans protested the suspension.

To quiet the 50,000 veterans eligible. for compensation, Mr. Mugabe promised them lump sums totaling \$260 million. But the funds come from a national budget deeply in debt and in which no provision had been made for an impromptu payont. Investors got jittery and the stock exchange began to flutter.

Then, it was revealed that foreign reserves were so low that imports could barely be covered for November and December. In response, the currency dropped like an anchor. Meanwhile, in a move a Western diplomat described as a "political diversion," Mr. Mugabe declared that his government would make good on its promise to acquire land for. the rural poor hy expropriating land of underutilized commercial farms, most of which are owned by whites.

With the announcement of the land. plan, the economy shook further, since agriculture accounts for 40 percent of, exports and fueled Zimbabwe's estimat-: ed 6 percent economic growth last:

'At the same time, Mr. Mugabe's cab-, inet, over the protests of Parliament, imposed a levy on workers' salaries and ordered more price increases on consumer goods to cover the veterans' pay-out. This awakened the wrath of labor, which mounted its December strike.

■ U.S. Urges Land Fairness

The U.S. government urged Zimbabwe on Thursday to ensure transparency and fairness in its plans to redistribute land to the country's black

majority, Reuters reported from Harare... The U.S. ambassador to Zimbabwe, Tom MacDonald, told local American ficials had looted a disability fund for investors to help him deliver a consistent. message to Mr. Mugabe's government: "In particular, it must address questions, of sustained economic reform, the opening up of the political system, the im-A cabiner minister admitted that she received thousands of dollars she should reform program and deficit reduction."

GERMANY: The Jobless Take to Streets

Continued from Page 1.

figure — that ordinary Germans, the German media and political opponents depict as evidence that Mr. Kohl's government is not addressing the issue, despite the government's announcement of a job-creation package this week.

'Kohl out,' chanted about 2,000 protesters in Berlin who marched to the Brandenburg Gate in icy weather. Elsewhere, in smaller demonstrations, knots of jobless Germans arrived at unem-ployment offices clutching sleeping bags as symbolic threats that they planned to occupy the offices until they were offered a job.

Overall, the organizers said, about 40,000 people protested, far fewer than they had expected for the country's first attempt since the 1960s to stage mass protests over unemployment.

Independent estimates put the number still lower, at around 10,000, a figure ascribed to a reluctance among some Germans to publicly acknowledge that they are unemployed and to the relative painlessness of unemployment in Germany. This country's jobless receive much more generous benefits than those in France, with minimum payments starting at the equivalent of more than \$600 a month.

There were no initial reports of violence or confrontation with the author- far exceed 5 million. ides, apart from the detention of three marchers who allegedly threw snowballs at police officers in Berlin. In some parts of Germany, some

Kohl's surname translates, literally, as cahbage) and as a reminder of the immediate postwar years, before the country's "economic miracle," when cabbage soup on the table was as good as it. got for many Germans.

The demonstrations represented a further indication of Europe's malaise over unemployment when many German companies are reacting to the high costs of labor by exporting johs to countries where workers are paid less, including the United States. German workers are among the world's most expensive, in part because of high wage levels and in part because employers are obliged to: contribute to huge state social security.

health and pension plans
The latest jobless figures brought the number of unemployed perilonsly close to what many Germans see as a psy-chologically significant level of 5 mil-lion, which recalls for many the mass: unemployment that preceded Hitler's

rise to power in 1933. The official figures, moreover, do not include Germans in state-financed makework jobs — employed, for example, by local authorities to sweep leafless streets and perform other small tasks — and other categories of unemployed that do not show up in the official statistics. If those people were included, many econ-omists say, the real figure would already

Protesters said they would stage similar demonstrations every month until scheduled national elections in September, when Mr. Kohl is to be seeking an. people sought more innovative protests unprecedented fifth term in office and such as doling out cabbage soup — unemployment seems certain to be a intended both as a play on words (Mr.



FRENCH FREEZE -- An icebreaker at work Thursday near Nancy, eastern France, on the canal joining the Marne and Rhine rivers.

Continued from Page 1

yet again about his relationship with Ms.

His response seemed to vary little from his earlier denials, though be had not previously referred to the "legal" charges or allegations. It was not clear her attorney, William Ginsburg, said she her to lie about it under oath. Mr. Clinton whether that change was intentional. A would not return to Washington before sexual relationship with Ms. Lewinsky would not have violated any law. The president on Thursday left the

door open to the possibility that the White House might invoke presidential privilege to protect testimony hy some top aides, a move that could lead to s quick confrontation with Mr. Starr. One of the aides over whose possible

testimony White House lawyers have expressed concern, the deputy chief of staff, John Podesta, appeared before the grand jury Thursday.

The question of invoking presidential privilege, normally used to protect dip-

lomatically or militarily sensitive matters, has not been resolved by White House attorneys, Mr. Climon said.
"Should it arise," he added, "I will

await a recommendation from the White House counsel."
Mr. Starr conceded separately that executive privilege was "a recognized con-stitutional privilege," but made it clear that he would view such a White House position dimly if he thought there was an attempt to "prevent the grand jury from getting specific information."

"We want the truth," Mr. Starr said. "We want all the truth. We want it complete, accurate. And we will satisfy ourselves that we are getting it, and that

is the absolute bedrock here Mr. Clinton's lawyers had sought to persuade the independent counsel's office to narrow the questioning of Mr. Podesta and other close presidential advisers, including the White House deputy counsel Bruce Lindsey.

But Mr. Starr's office, according to The Associated Press, sent a letter Wed- Kermeth Starr in Arkansas on nesday to the White House counsel. Thursday: "We want the truth."

lawyers convinced there was no room to whatsoever," he said.

to interview Ms. Lewinsky in person to friend and co-worker, Linda Tripp, Ms. clear up the alleged contradictions. She Lewinsky has alleged she had an affair is in California visiting her father, and next week.

Even as Mr. Starr's office was standing firm in the talks with White House attorneys, Mr. Starr appeared to toughen his stance with Ms. Lewinsky's attorneys.

Mr. Starr's office reportedly set a deadline of noon on Friday for Ms. Lewinsky's lawyers to indicate whether she would talk with prosecutors, although on Thursday, Mr. Starr said that there was no such deadline.

In Los Angeles, Mr. Ginsburg dismissed the talk of a deadline but added that negotiations were at a standstill. We are not in any discussions with



According to secretly taped conver-Prosecutors reportedly want a chance sations made by Ms. Lewinsky's onetime with Mr. Clinton and that he encouraged

has repeatedly denied the allegations. Yet, while the negotiations with Ms. Lewinsky and the White House have stalled, Mr. Starr, a former judge, appears to exude confidence about the evidence he is developing before grand juries in Washington, Little Rock, and

Arlington, Virginia.
The extent of the Starr investigation. which originally revolved around real-estate deals in Arkansas, has led some of his detractors to join Mrs. Clinton in questioning his motives. Opinion polls show a majority of Americans believe that Mr. Starr, a moderate Republican, is

politically motivated. When one reporter asked whether his office was "at war" with the White House, Mr. Starr replied: "We are professionals. The law is the law, the law is sacred, facts have integrity, and we're

going to do our job."

He added: "The attorney general of the United States gave this office jurisdiction over very serious allegations. Those allegations are possible obstrucoon of juscice, intimidation of witnesses and subomation of perjury. That is an extraordinary set of circumstances. We're investigating those as promptly,

as quickly as we can. At the same time, the president has not backed down from his denials, on which his credibility, possibly even his presidency, might well stand or fall.

Mr. Clinton, who seemed stricken by the original charges, drew strength last week from opinion polls showing strong support for the job he was doing, even among many voters who were troubled hy his explanation of the Lewinsky al-

When reporters asked Thursday about

December 1997. News reports have said prosecutors

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Khumalo resigns, and a

plan is devised

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JCI. Gold is

about \$300.

NOV. 1996

African Mining

Group, led by

Mzilikazi Khumalo, is

high bidder for 35

percent of JCI at

\$11.87 a share, or

trading for about

\$375 an ounce.

\$600 million. Gold is

By Donald G. McNeil Jr.

New York Times Service

JOHANNESBURG - Barney

Mr. Khumalo, a former political pris-

rival Mr. Barnato in the history

By Reginald Dale

huge interest in the future value of

Europe's planned single currency, the

euro. But the German corporatiou's ex-

ecutives intend to lose no sleep over the

current tussle between France and its

EU partners over who should head the

planned European central bank - even

though the winner will play a key role in

real world whether the bank's first pres-

ident will be Jean-Claude Trichet of

France or Wim Duisenberg of the Neth-

erlands, a senior company executive

remarked in Washington the other day.

widely held, and correct, view that both

men are equally qualified to become

Europe's most powerful central banker.

That nonchalance partly reflects a

It is "absolutely irrelevant" in the

influencing the euro's exchange rate.

ASHINGTON — As the

European Union's largest industrial enterprise,

Daimler Benz AG has a

books, but his entry was impressive. His

story thus far, though, is a cautionary

A Golden Dream Dashed

Daily closing stock price of JCI, a South African mining company.

MARCH 1997

In a complex

raises the

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about \$350.

of JCI. Gold is

one for black entrepreneurs seeking a American Corp, and he was named ex-

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

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many than 100 people for det signal have to close between the who he said were landing and the market in the said have been activities. Will have been a few and the said have been a few and the

RIO DE JANEIRO - Trocky Sached a Brundlant found take Barnato and Mzilikazi Khumalo never instited 42 ferroment ferriming in knew each other: Mr. Barnato died insane in 1897, and Mr. Khumalo was not Moreon of Court in Redwiner of Court in the Re born until 1955. But the two men who hracket the history of JCI Ltd. — the mining house that Mr. Barnato created had carner as one or ordering and Mr. Khumalo is tearing apart -the said and the said of the both have the status of legends in South African husiness oner, has not been around long enough

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1998

Khumalo trades JCIs best gold

mines for a stake in a British

JCI tries to buy part of a titanium exploration company that

Khumalo's most Important backar is named head of JCIs gold division. Khumalo says the company is in merger talks. Gold is about \$325.

JCI executives quit. Gold is Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. 2 Legendary Figures Bracket Stormy Story of JCI

The Argument for Giving a Frenchman the Euro Job

of profit, arrogance, secrecy, public interest and guilt all do battle. A plan to hreak up the venerable 100ear-old company, also known as Joanneshurg Consolidated Investment, scattering its gold, coal and chrome mines among local and European huyers, was presented to shareholders last week. A total sell-off in the next six months may still be derailed by reluctant shareholders, but the company is already a shell of its former self, plagued hy deht, low morale and resignations.

Last March, when a consortium of

investors headed by Mr. Khumalo bought

the 35 percent interest owned by Anglo

conventional wisdom in the ivory

towers of Brussels and other European

squabbling over the presidency risks

damaging the euro's credibility by sug-

gesting that the bank will be subject to

meddling by EU member governments,

a violation of the total independence

Specifically, there is coocern that a

possible compromise, under which

first Mr. Duisenberg and then Mr. Tri-

chet would each serve for four years,

would violate a treaty provisioo that

the president be appointed for an eight-

But that is a technical problem, oot

one of substance, that will be quickly

forgotten once the president is named

and begins to establish the bank's cred-

ibility. It is not as if the bank will face

a united phalanx of EU governments

The new president will automatically

trying to push it around.

year term.

guaranteed by the Maastricht treaty.

That wisdom is that the undignified

capitals sometimes is off target.

whose white-dominated soul the forces

place in South African business, in ecutive chairman, JCI instantly became a potent symbol — the first mining house controlled by black shareholders. Mining is the historic core of South

Several senior

Africa's wealth, built on the backs of poorly paid hlack men who lived beside shafts far from their home villages, to which they could be deported at the first sign of labor unrest. This formula, in fact, underwrote apartheid as an economic necessity long before it was articulated as

a philosophy hy Afrikaner nationalists. On Jan. 28, saying he had "no desire to preside over JCI's liquidation," Mr. Khumalo, 42, resigned as chairman, anticipating his likely ouster the next day. In November, he had been forced to step down as executive chairman after spending \$50 million, without asking

benefit from the backing of the EU's

most powerful country. Germany,

which will insist oo the bank's absolute

independence. If anything, if there are

suspicions that politics have dictated the choice, the president will want to

demonstrate even greater toughness in

It is quite wroog to jump to the conclusion, as many have, that Mr.

Trichet, the governor of the Bank of

France, would be more inclined to fol-

low the wishes of the French govern-

ment and be a less vigorous campaigner

against inflation than Mr. Duisenberg.

On the contrary, Mr. Trichet's record

Much of the current concern reflects

irritation by other countries that France

decided to nominate Mr. Trichet when

virtually everyone else (though not

Italy) had settled on Mr. Duisenberg,

now president of the bank's forerun-

ner, the European Monetary Institute.

resist excessive German dominance of

But France is perfectly entitled to

suggests precisely the opposite.

resisting government interference.

the board, for part of a fledgling titanium mining company in which he had a large interest. Last week, shareholders voted to back out of that deal.

In recent weeks, some here have portrayed him as an "African Icarus," heroic black entrepreneur who fell victim to the machinations of white executives, while others see him as a traitor to hlack aspirations who took on more than he could handle while acting as a frout man for wealthy white friends.

Mr. Khumalo has blamed divisions in the JCI board for his downfall - a downfall that seemed to accelerate this week with news that another company he founded, Capital Alliance Holdings,

See JCI, Page 17

the euro, already symbolized by the

bank's location in Frankfurt, in the

Bundesbank's backyard. Mr. Duiseo-

berg is an excellent banker, hut he is

definitely in the Germanic traditioo.
In many ways, France's whole ap-

proach to the euro makes more sense

than Germany's. France is right to insist

that the euro zone needs to be managed

hy a new form of European economic

governance, grouping the euro member

governments, The French position is in

fact consistent with the Bundesbank's

long-held view that monetary union

implies further steps to political union.

ing that the new governmental group-

ing should exercise political control

over the bank. That immediately guar-

antees German opposition. Paris

should stick to the case for govern-

mental management of the economic

policies of the euro zone, not its mon-

etary policies. That would give greater weight to the good reasons Mr. Trichet

should get the joh.

The French mistake lies in suggest-

SAP's Founder and Chief Will Step Down in May Hopp Plans 'Active Role' on Supervisory Board

By John Schmid

International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT - Dietmar Hopp will retire as co-chairman of SAP AG in May, 25 years after he quit his job at International Business Machines Corp. and borrowed a computer to co-found what has become Europe's biggest software company.

SAP's surprise announcement Thursday prompted an immediate sell-off ou the Frankfurt stock market, with the stock closing down 8.90 Deutsche marks at 675 (\$371.63). But any drop in investor confidence

should prove short-lived, several analysis said. The transition has all the hallmarks of continuity, they said. When Mr. Hopp steps down as cochairman of the executive board at the

May 7 shareholder meeting, he will ask shareholders to elect him to the chairmanship of the supervisory board. "I will not be retiring but plan to continue to play an active role in the company," Mr. Hopp said.

With Mr. Hopp putting in full "40-hour-plus workweeks," in the words of a

spokesman, few analysts expect any deviation from the business software strategy that has allowed SAP to expand at fiber-optic speed in recent years. It is unusual in Germany for a supervisory board chairman to work full days because the post typically is held by bankers who have full-time commitments elsewhere.

Henning Steinbrink, an analyst at Schroeder Mueuchmeyer Hengst & Co. in Frankfurt, said SAP's management transition began last year when Mr. Hopp began to share the chairmanship with another co-founder, Hasso Plattner, who is often called the company's high-tech "vision man."

Mr. Plattner will stay on as co-chairman. Henning Kagermann, 50, who has served on the executive board since 1981, will replace Mr. Hopp.

The nomination of Henning Kagermann to chairman of SAP AG is for us a sign of continuity," the company's workers council said in a statement.

After net profit rose 63 percent last year, to 924 million DM, and sales surged 62 perceut, to 6 billion DM, the company and analysts have forecast further double-digit growth this year.

More Democrats Support New U.S. Funds for IMF

By Paul Blustein thington Post Service

WASHINGTON - The Clinton administration has gained important momentum for its hid to win approval of new U.S. contributions to the International Monetary Fund, as House Democrats voiced broad support for the IMF's rescues of ailing Asian economies.

Many IMF advocates feared that liberal House Democrats would join Republican anti-internationalists and libertarians to block financing for the IMF. But at a closed-door meeting of the House Democratic Caucus on Wednesday, Treasury Secretary Robert Ruhin drew an overwhelmingly positive response to his plea for swift passage of egislation to provide new U.S. funding to the IMF, according to people at the

After the meeting broke up, the House minority leader, Richard Gephardt, who has supported the extra funding, said he expected 'a significant majority" of Democrats to vote for the legislation. The affirmative response from House

Democrats indicates that the IMF legislation may move through Congress with less resistance than many observers had expected. Its passage is by no means assured,

however, because it remains entangled in a controversy over abortion, which

torpedoed similar legislation last fall. The fund has drawn fire from both the left and right for its approach to bailing out such countries as South Korea, Thailand and Indonesia.

The House minority whip, David Bonior of Michigan, has announced his probable opposition to the legislation on the grounds that insufficient attention is being paid to concerns about worker rights in the afflicted countries. But one of the caucus's most in-

fluential liberals, Representative David Obey of Wisconsin, delivered a powerful endorsement of the legislation, which would authorize \$18 billioo in U.S. funds to help replenish the IMF's depleted resources, according to people who were at the meeting. Mr. Obey noted that, while he had

fought the administration on other international ecocomic issues such as 'fast track'' trade negotiating authority, he agreed with the White House view that the crisis threatens American johs by reducing demand for U.S. exports and by increasing imports from Asia.

In an interview, Mr. Obey declined to comment oo what was said at the caucus meeting.

But he said: "If we care about American workers, what we ought to be doing is trying to stabilize these Asian currencies at the highest possible rate, so they do not feel compelled to try to export their unemployment to the United States and eliminate markets for our own products. I think the best way to do that is to move on the IMF as soon as possible. Still, the legislation faces trouble be-

For Italian State Broadcaster RAI, a Makeover From the Top

By James Hansen Special to the Herald Tribun

ROME — Italy's state broadcaster, Radiotelevisione Italiana; or RAL, has been decapitated. Shifting political winds and, above all, collapsing audience figures have led to the removal of its chairman, the entire board and the director-general.

They have been replaced, according to RAI officials, by seasoned industry professionals rather than politically oriented appointees.

'We were governed by people who bragged that they didn't even own a TV set, much less watch television," said Giovanni Minoli, director of RAI's third network. 'It's good to have pro-fessionals back.'

The RAI group comprises three television and several radio networks. The key figure in the new leadership group will be Pier Luigi Celli, whose

appointment as director-general was

credentials as a manager, particularly in

the area of personnel. He knows RAI well, having served as the company's director of personnel for a stormy 11 months from September 1993 to August 1994, when he was forced out on the heels of a scandal

triggered by his crusade against widespread expense-account fraud. At one point, Mr. Celli audited expense accounts generated by RAI news teams covering the Gulf War, in one wellknown instance sending a receipt said to be from a Saudirestaurant out for translation. It

turned out to be an Arabic prayer. "Think of Celli as a nice tough guy," Mr. Minoli said. "He's funny, ironic and knowledgeahle — and he's not afraid."

Mr. Celli is also literate, the author of eight books on subjects ranging from managerial treatises to an open letter to

order of nuns vowed to silence.

Until he was called to RAI, Mr. Celli was chief of personnel for ENEL, the Italian national electrical utility.

His boss there was Franco Tato, who said about the move: "I am ticked off. Ceili is extremely able, but I needed him here. But I do understand. The media husiness is a fascinating one. Celli has all my best

wishes, and he's going to need every one of them." The task facing Mr. Celli, who declined to comment on his appointment, is a difficult

one. RAI has lately been taking a substantial hammering from the private Mediaset networks of Silvio Berlusconi, the former prime minister. The flagship evening news of the RAI first network is for the first time regularly being beaten in the ratings war hy the upstart Mediaset Channel 5, and its lead weekend variety show, "Fantast-

but old-fashioned Mediaset variety show based on a format as old as com-

mercial television. RAI supporters have seen in these disasters a "crisis of generalist television." A Mediaset spokesman said, "I think it's simpler than that. The

public just prefers our programs." RAI also faces a serious overmanning roblem. The hroadcaster has more than 10 thousand permanent employees and more than that many again on term contracts - for a total of around 23 thousand employees. Its principal competitor, Mediaset, claims only 4,500

permanent employees. Finally, as if the problems of day-today management were not enough, RAI is getting ready to change its skin. The government will shortly present to Parliament a proposed law to reform broadcasting in the country. It is expected to call for the partial privatization of RAI and may also contain provisions re-

confirmed Thursday. Mr. Celli has solid his eldest daughter on her entry into an ico," was crushed last season by a slick quiring the third network of RAI to shed all advertising and operate as a purely

public service. Giovanna Melandri, a parliamentarian and responsible for broadcasting policy within the Democratic Party of the Left, formerly Communist but now in the government, thinks that may be the greatest challenge facing Mr. Celli and the new board.

The mission of the new leadership of RAI must be that of piloting it toward a project of reform that becomes more orgent with every passing day," she said. 'RAI is going to have to become a leaner and more effective organization, free from the control of political parties.'

Words like "lean" and "reform" concern RAI employees, who are in-clined to describe Mr. Celli's return as 'Celli II - The Vendetta" and then not laugh much about their joke.

But ENEL's Mr. Tato said, "Vendetta? That's not Ceili's style at ail. He just wants to get the joh done.

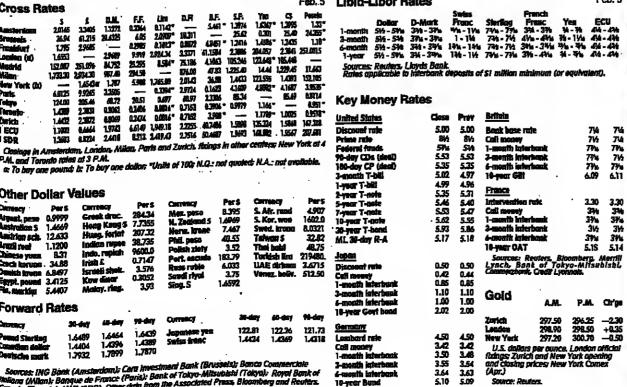
cause of efforts by Republican conservatives to attach language that would deny taxpayer funding to international institutions that lobby for abortion. After failing to reach a compromise on that issue last year, anti-abortion forces are angry over what they consider the administration's inflexible stance. The speaker of the House, Newt Gin-

grich, believes that "a long and serious discussion" is in order on the IMF issue, spokeswoman said.

The administration, eager to rally support for the IMF, sent Mr. Rubin and his deputy, Lawrence Summers, to several meetings and hearings on Capitol Hill on Wednesday. Mr. Summers pledged that the Treas-

ury would press for changes in IMF operations to make the 182-nation organization more "transparent." The fund has been criticized for refusing to release information about many of its most important decisions, such as the list of economic reforms that financially strapped countries must adopt when they borrow IMF money.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES



Feb. 5 Libid-Libor Rates



MONEY TALKS - Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad, left, being welcomed Thursday to Bangkok by his Thai counterpart, Chuan Leekpai. Mr. Mahathir was to push for more use of regional currencies in trade.

'Ashamed' Astra Settles Sex Suit

U.S. Unit to Pay Record Amount for Mistreating Women

BOSTON — In the largest agreement yet of its kind, the U.S. subsidiary of the Swedish pharmaceutical company Astra AB agreed Thursday to pay nearly \$10 million to settle claims by former employees that they had been sexually harassed.

Astra admitted it had permitted a hostile working environment for female employees at its U.S. headquarters in Westboro, Massachusetts, the company and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said.
The \$9.85 million payment rep-

resents the largest settlement for sexual harassment negotiated by the commission. The money will

NEW YORK — The dollar fell

mark, as investors focused on a drop

in Germany's seasonally adjusted

johless figure. Germany's Federal Labor Office

said the number of unemployed de-clined by a seasonally adjusted 72,000 in January, fueling specu-lation that the country's economic

ontlook may be improving.

If seasonal factors are eliminated,

go to 80 current and former work- tenced to 21 months in prison. ers - more if others come forward later, officials said. One of the 80 is a man who said he had been punished for speaking out against the

"As a company, we are ashaned of the unacceptable behavior that took place," Astra USA's new president, Ivan Rowley, said. The company admitted that fe-

male employees had been asked for sexual favors in exchange for favorable treatment on the joh. The company has sued its young women who were then pres-former U.S. chief executive, Lars sured into having sex.

Bildman, for \$15 million. In an agreement with prosecutors, Mr. Bildman had demanded that eight

German Jobless Report Spurs Mark

that the U.S. economy may slow, the

took it as a sign German interest

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

rates may head higher in coming

"The data in Germany doesn't

show the weakness that the market

anticipated," said Seth Cohen, head

of currency sales at Union Bank of

In its suit against Mr. Bildman, Astra said it planned to recover costs related to the commission's investigation.

Mr. Bildman ran the American operations of Astra AB before he was fired in 1996 amid allegations that he had spent company cash on home repairs, family vacations and high-priced prostitutes.

Mr. Bildman was accused of

replacing mothers and older women employees with beautiful single

sured into having sex. Bildman pleaded guilty last week hours of work be followed by eight to a tax charge and will be sen-hours of drinking and partying.

Swiss francs from 1.4510 francs. It

was steady at 123.555 yea. The pound slipped to \$1.6543 from

The yen was underpinned by ex-

pectations that Japan's government

will move aggressively to jump-

start the faltering economy. On Friday, Japan's Parliament is expected

to approve measures to bail out its deht-strapped banks. On Wednes-

day, the legislative body cleared the

way for a tax cut and for public-

Wall Street Stumbles On Jitters Over Iraq

NEW YORK - Stocks finished mixed Thursday, with key indexes pressured by worries about tensions between the United States and Iraq and U.S. employment data for January, which will be released Friday.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 12.46 points lower at 8,117.25, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 3.37 to 1,003.53. Bot gaining issues outnumbered

losing ones by a 4-to-3 ratio oo the New York Stock Exchange. The price of the benchmark 30year Treasury bond fell 30/32 point

U.S. STOCKS

to 102 24/32, taking the yield op to 5.93 perceot from 5.86 percent Wednesday.

"A strong jobs number could con-cern the market," said Ben Mayer, a bond manager at AMR Investments. If the data show a large number of jobs created in January, the Federal Reserve Board might be more inclined to raise interest rates.

The central bank left rates unchanged after its policy-making council meeting this week. Computer-related shares, which

fell the most when Asia's markets crumbled over the past few mooths, cootinued to rebound.

The Asian fears were overblown," said Tony Dwyer at Laden-burg, Thalmann & Co. "Those portfolio managers that got out of the market because of fears over Asia have to get back into the market." Compag Computer was the most ac-

tively traded issue, rising 1/2 to 351/2. But 3Com fell 2 1/16 to 321/4 amid

AMEX

concern that the company's invent-ory of modems and computer-networking systems may be building because of a slowdown in sales.

Microo Technology fell 3 1/16 to 34 15/16 after Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. told investors to avoid stock in the maker of computer

memory chips.

Kmart rose 9/16 to 12% after the retailer reported strong sales for January. (Reuters, Bloomberg, AP)

Netscape Stock Rises Amid Talk of Merger

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California Netscape Communications
Corp.'s stock rose \$2.75 to close at \$22 Thursday amid speculation that the uoprofitable Internet software maker's discussions with several companies would lead to a merger or acquisition.

Netscape has been in talks with International Business Machines Corp., Sun Microsystems Inc., Oracle Corp. and America Online Inc., people familiar with the discussions said. The talks have gone on for over a year and intensified as Netscape lost market share to Microsoft Corp.

Netscape is desperate," said Keith Beojamin, an analyst at Banc-America Robertsoo Stephens who has a "buy" rating on America Online. Netscape last week said it had a fourth-quarter loss of \$20.8 million. or 22 cents a share, before charges, compared with net income of \$8.16 million, or 9 cents a share, a year

Very briefly:

 Glendale Federal Bank is buying California Federal Bank's parent company, Golden State Bancorp Inc., to form the third-largest U.S. savings and loan. The thrift, which will be controlled by the holding company of the financier Rocald Perelman, will be based in San Francisco and have more than 400 branches with \$51 billion in assets.

 U.S. retailers' same-store sales rose a larger-than-expected 5.9 percent in January, lifted by specialty clothing stores that had major post-holiday clearance promotions.

• MCI Communications Corp. put oo hold plans for \$900 million in additional investment in Avantel SA, its Mexican long-distance joint venture with Grupo Financiero Banamex Accival SA.

• MCI is offering residential phone customers unlimited Internet use for \$14.95 a month, 25 perceot less than its traditional plan, making the company to the lowest-priced nationwide Internet provider in the United States.

· Silver prices soared for a fifth day to their highest price level since July 1988 amid a shortage of available supply that has pushed up rates charged to lease the precious metal to a record 65 percent from 2 percent a year ago. Warreo Buffett said this week that his investment company, Berkshire Hathaway Inc., had bought 129.7 million ounces of silver.

• Seagram Co. reported that it had sold more than half of its sizable stake in Time Warner Inc.

· Hasbro Inc.'s fourth-quarter net profit fell 81 percent from a year earlier, to \$18.9 million, largely because of a \$140 million restructuring charge at the No. 2 U.S. toymaker. Sales rose to \$1.13 billion from \$1.11 billion. Hasbro is eliminating 2,500 jobs, or 20 percent of its worldwide work force.

 Microsoft Corp. needs tough antitrust enforcement to make sure it does not leverage its control of the personal computer operating system to establish a "proprietary Internet," according to the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Orrin Hatch of Utah. AP, Bloomberg, Reuters

Feb. 5, 1998

Switzerland, "That's caused some however, the number of jobless rose movement into marks." 301,600 to a postwar record 4.8 mil-The dollar fell to 1.7870 DM in 4

against other major currencies number was enough to lure many Thursday, especially the Deutsche currency traders to marks. Some

months.

Bloomberg News

NYSE Approves a Shutdown Plan

WASHINGTON - The New York Stock Exchange's board approved a circuit-breaker plan Thursday that would keep xchanges open in all but the most extreme market plunges.

The proposal was developed by the Big Board's staff in response to concerns by government regulators that an earlier plan would have closed markets unnecessarily during steep stock market declines.

The proposal, which must be approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission, would close U.S. trading for the rest of the day only wheo the Dow Jooes industrial average fell 20 perceot after 2 P.M. New York time or 30 percent at any point. The rule also calls for markets to close for an hour if the average falls 10 percent before 2 P.M.

Trading would stop for 30 minutes if the index dropped by 10 percent between 2 P.M. and 2:30 P.M., and it would not be halted at all if the 10 perceot threshold were crossed after 2:30

Such measures are designed to give market participants a breather in an effort to avoid panic trading.

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EMU Bid to Germans Ciampi Describes Financial Progress

BONN — Treasury Minister Carlo oo anti-Italian group. Azeglio Ciampi of Italy on Thursday began two days of talks in Germany to promote Italy's bid to join the planned European monetary union.

bid to whip its finances into shape ticipants in 1999. for EMU, saying that Italy had won the battle against inflation and would continue to drive down its debt.

At a lunch with German members of Parliament, Mr. Ciampi said Italy's ratio of debt to gross do-mestic product probably fell below the government's target of 122.6 percent in 1997 and would fall three percent just five years ago.

But Germany and other EU memto sources at the lunch.

The German finance minister, Theo Waigel, lauded Italy's progress in slashing its budget deficit.
"I have said often how much I value Italy's efforts in the past years," Mr. Waigel said after a meeting with Mr. Čiampi.

Germany, Europe's most influential economy, still has not taken a position on whether it deems Italy fit to adopt Europe's single currency in

The German government is in the dilemma of wanting to see curreccy union come to fruition with as many participants as possible, yet knowing it has to win over a majority of German voters in September's parliamentary elections. The German public is afraid the inclusion of currencies like the lira, which is volatile, could weaken the euro, the

projected European currency. Mr. Ciampi will travel to Frankfurt on Friday to meet Wim Duisenberg, head of the European Monetary Institute, and the Bundesbank president, Hans Tietmeyer.

Ahead of the visit there has been widespread speculation that Germany would demand special assurances from Rome on its ability to meet its long-term budget goals and stay within the fiscal limits in the Maastricht treaty on EMU.

Bot in an interview with German Radio on Thursday, Mr. Ciampi denied a reporter's assertion that there was a group in the European Commission conspiring to keep

lialy out. "Absolutely not," he said. "In the commission there is a group of experts who are scrutinizing the

NTL Set to Acquire Comcast UK

U.S. Firm to Pay \$997 Million for British Cable Company

LONDON -- NTL Inc. agreed Thursday to pay \$997 million in stock and assumed deht for ComMost of those companies, includ cast UK Cable Partners, acceler-

traded in the United States, rose

Britain's cable industry is coo-

75 cents to \$31.125.

Last month there were press reports that Finance Minister Gerrit ating consolidation of the belea-Zalm of the Netherlands planned to guered British cahle industry. step down if Italy was allowed in The minister defended Rome's with the first wave of EMU par-NTL, which is based in New York, will pay the equivalent of \$11.98 for each Comcast share, a

The European Union will select participants in May, using fiscal data from 1997.

oumbers very carefully. But there is

Italy has shown impressive progress, reducing its hudget deficit to around 3 percent of gross domestic product in 1997, the level required by the Maastricht treaty, from 10

bers are concerned about its high level of deht, even though they appear convinced that Italy belongs in the first wave of EMU as it was a founding member of the European Community. (Reuters. Bloomberg)

Restructuring

To Bring Loss,

Opel Predicts

FRANKFURT - Adam

Opel AG, the German unit of

Geoeral Motors Corp., said

Thursday it would report a loss

for 1997 of 150 million to 250

million Deutsche marks (\$85

million to \$140 million) be-

cause of costs related to a new

Opel said costs associated

with restructuring measures

and a new job security agree-ment would require a charge

against earnings of at least 465

million DM, wiping out a profit for the year slightly above the 1996 level of 314 million DM.

The deal calls for a guarantee

against layoffs through the end

of 2002 but will lead to cuts

through attrition and start an

early-retirement plan that will

cnt 4,000 jobs. In return, the

carmaker's works conneil won

nearly 1 billion DM worth of

investment guarantees for Opel

plants in Western Germany.

early-retirement program.

rushed into Britain in the 1980s as deregulation allowed them to sell

Most of those companies, including Nynex Corp., SBC Communications Inc. and Cox Communications Inc., have since reduced their interests to passive holdings.

volved."

"The question is whether or not this deal is the last in the cahle 29.5 percent premium over the Wednesday closing price of \$9.25, to create the third-biggest British consolidation," said Alan Lyons, a telecommunications analyst with ABN-AMRO Hoare Govett. Cable company.

"There are several other players sume Company you can envisage getting in in debt.

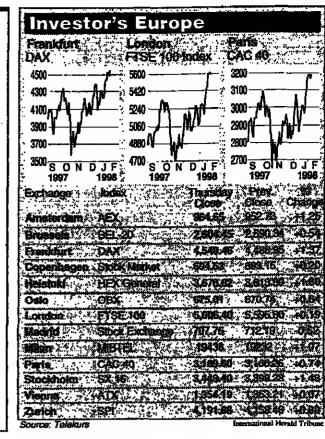
\$1.25 in late trading to \$10.50. Philadelphia-based Comcast rose Shares in other British cable companies rose. General Cable PLC rose 18.5 pence, or 23 percent, to 99.5 pence, while Telewest solidating and trying to cut costs Communications PLC rose 5 because the British have not adopted cable TV as fast as North America. American companies had \$31.375 in late U.S. trading.

NTL's cahle networks reach about 2 million British homes, and Comcast reaches around 1 million. That makes them around half the size of the Britain's biggest cable company, Cable & Wireless Communications PLC, and puts them within range of second-higgest Telewest's 4.2 million homes.

NTL, which operates British cahle networks in Wales and Northern Ireland and runs a British TV transmitter network, will as-"There are several other players sume Comcast UK's \$397 million

Comcast shareholders can pull ont of the agreement if NTL's stock drops below \$26.70.

NTL's acquisition comes after US West Media Groop Inc. said it might increase its stake in Telewest hy buying out 10 percent stakes held by SBC Communications and Cox Communications.



Strong Pound Hammers ICI Profit

LONDON — Imperial Chemical Industries PLC said Thursday its pretax profit plunged 36 percent last year, to £385 million (\$637.8 million), because of a strong pound and

the cost of restructuring.
ICI said the strong pound erased
£190 million of profit last year, canceling out much of the effect of an increase in sales to £11.06 billion from £10.52 billion.

activity that transformed it from a growth rates of 7 percent to 8 percent low-margin hulk chemicals prodo- annually between oow and 2002. He first half of this year. cer to a leader in products with high- also said the company was seeking a

er margins such as food flavorings return on net asset value of at least 20 and adhesives.

"The quality of earnings and the growth in our core businesses is clear," said Sir Ronald Hampel, the company's chairman. "We are confident that the quality of new 1CI will become increasingly evident as 1998 unfolds." That outlook helped

lift the company's stock price 30 pence to close at 970 peoce. Charles Miller Smith, chief ex-But the company promised better ecutive, said the company was aim-times ahead after a year of intense ing for double-digit margins and sales

percent, underpinned by productivity and performance improvements.

ICI said the specialty businesses bought last year from Unilever PLC for £4.8 billion had already enhanced earnings and met the com-

pany's own expectations.

The group's paints husiness posted record profit of £160 million, up 17 percent excluding the impact of

the exchange rate.

Alan Spall, the finance director, said news of progress on further

divestitures could be expected in the (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Preussag Sells Steel Unit in Shift to Tourism

HANNOVER, Germany -Preussag AG said Thursday it had lion) to Norddeutsche Landesbank and the German state of Lower Sax-

transformation from an industrial the year-earlier quarter.

conglomerate to a travel-oriented

Preussag also said its net profit agreed to sell its steel unit for I.06 rose 41 percent in the year to Sept. billion Deutsche marks (\$588 mil- 30, to 397 million DM.

The company said its sales were up 26 percent in the first quarter of its current year, to 7.2 billion DM, The sale is part of Preussag's slower than the 45 percent growth in

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Foreign sales reached a record 55 percent of total sales in 1996-97 compared with 48 percent the previous year. Preussag said the impact of the Asian financial crisis was

The company said the divestment of its steel activities would help the company focus on energy, technology, logistics and tourism.

Sydney

Very briefly:

• Fried. Krupp AG Hoesch-Krupp's supervisory board approved the proposal to merge with Thyssen AG hy a vote of 11 to 9. Thyssen's board approved the proposal, 11 to 10, last

 The Buodesbank left interest rates unchanged, as expected, amid fresh evidence that German economic growth remains moderate. The central bank left its floor discount rate at a historic low of 2.50 percent and its ceiling Lombard rate at 4.50 percent.

• Siemens AG expects to cooperate with Microsoft Corp. to use the American company's Windows CE software in telephones and other products.

Paramount, Universal and MGM will not be allowed to distribute their films jointly in Europe, said Karel van Miert, the European Union antitrust chief. United International Pictures. the joint distribution arm of the three studios, said it "sharply disputed the commissioner's views.

• France's Finance Ministry said Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the finance minister, would give the government's longawaited approval of a takeover bid for the insurer AGF hy Allianz of Germany. • CNPF, which represents French industrialists, repeated its

oppositioo to the government's hill to shorten the workweek but said "modifications" such as changing the bill's talk of an 'obligation" for a shorter week into an "objective" might make it more palatable. • Telefonica de Espana SA announced discount plans for its

noncorporate customers. The company presented five discount plans for international and medium-distance calls, cutting prices by 10 percent to 60 percent.

• British Biotech PLC shares plunged after European regulators delayed approving a drug to treat pancreatitis, Zacutex, wiping out a quarter of the company's value on the London stock market.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

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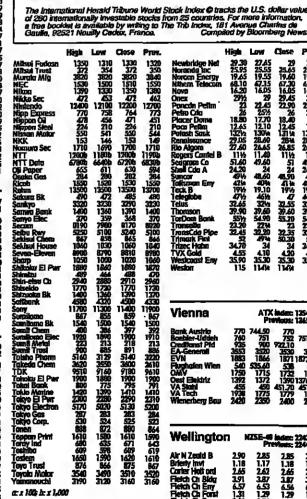




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Seoul Vows to End Barriers to Foreign Investment Hong Kong Singapon Straits Time

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Chang Yuel pledged Thursday to remove the last barriers to foreign think that the entire country is for investment in South Korea as the government said the country's exgovernment said the country's exwornal debt had started to shrink.

foreign parties.''

"While 1 believe that the pros-

even the last remaining taxes to help attract direct foreign investment. Mr. Lim said, referring to taxes imposed on foreigners investing in South Korea. We also plan to simplify procedures for foreigners seeking to buy land to set up facilities necessary for investment.

The minister also said that foreign funds were flowing "smoothly" into the country and were helping stabilize the foreign exchange market. In January alone, foreign investors pumped in some \$950 million for portfolio investment, following an injection of \$338 million

in December, he said. But Michael Brown, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, said that anti-foreign sentiment in Korea was still discouraging direct investment. He said that even though the numbers had risen, direct foreign investment in Korea still lagged such rivals as Malaysia, Singapore and China. He also said Korea should educate the public on the benefits of foreign investment.

SEOUL — Finance Minister Lim meeting with Korean business-move the last barriers to form

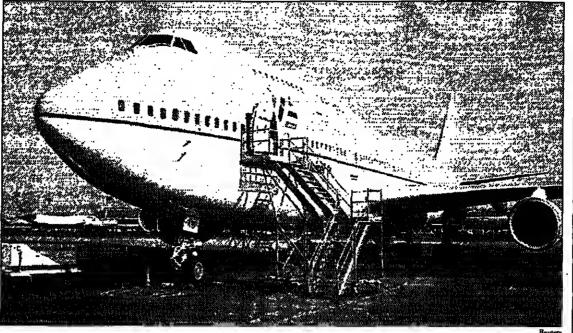
pects for incremental foreign direct investment are very good over the medium term," he added, "I think Korea's concerns of foreign domination in many industries are grossly exaggerated."

Mr. Brown said that even if stock ownership rules were thoroughly liberalized, be expected most new investments to be in the form of buying out local joint-venture part-

Mr. Lim predicted that the improving economic conditions meant that South Korea would need only \$43.2 billion in additional rescue loans this year, instead of the earlier estimated \$68.2 billion. South Korea secured an accord

from international banks in New York last month to roll over \$24 billion of short-term debt, which constituted most of the banks' shortterm debt due this year. The Finance Ministry said Thurs-

day that South Korea's total external liabilities had declined \$7.3 billion in December to reach \$154.4 bittion at the start of the year.



A plane owned by Asiana, South Korea's second-largest air carrier, which has asked that the foreign-ownership limit of 20 percent be raised to 50 percent to help in weathering the crisis.

The long-term debt actually increased by \$13.1 billion to \$86 bil-But short-term debt fell \$20.4 flows of rescne funds from the ment of short-term liabilities by fi-International Monetary Fund, the nancial institutions, it said. Asian Development Bank and the

first time that Seoul has put ont the But short-term debt fell \$20.4 billion during the month thanks to in- lion to \$68.4 billion through repay-

The announcement marked the

breakdown of its foreign debt following an agreement between the government and the IMF in publish total external liabilities every (AFP, Reuters)

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Hong Kong Leads **High-Priced List**

For Office Space Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SINGAPORE — Hong Kong bas overtaken Tokyo as the world's most expensive city to have an office in the prime business district, according to a report issued Thursday by the Singapore property firm Ed-mund Tie & Co.

Seven cities in Asia were among the top 10 most expensive, the survey showed. Office occupancy costs measure rents, property tax and maintenance.

The survey of 68 cities, taken in December, showed costs in Hong Kong averaged \$10.11 per square foot (\$108.78 a square meter) a month, well ahead of Tokyo. Londoo's West End was second with an average cost of \$9.18 a square foot, the City of London financial district was third at \$8.69, and central Tokyo followed at \$8.64. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

Coca-Cola Amatil to Split Up on Regional Lines

By Constance L. Hays New York Times Service

NEW YORK -- Coca-Cola Co.'s second-largest bottler, Coca-Cota Amatil Ltd., will be broken into two companies, one based in Europe and the other in Australia, to better focus on regional business demands.

In addition, the new entities will acquire bottlers in Italy and South Korea for a total of \$1.4 billion in equity and cash, Coca-Cola anoounced Wednesday.

In its current form, Coca-Cola Amatil, based in Sydney, comprises a sprawling empire that reaches from Austria to New Zealand.

[Confirming the split-up, Coca-Cola Amatil also said Thursday its net profit rose 73 percent in 1997, to 242.2 million Australian dollars (\$163.4 million), as sales increased Amatil board several weeks ago and 31 percent, to 4.83 billion dollars, who has long been considered a Sydney. But the company warned have an "adverse impact" on its bottler, to be called Coca-Cola

Australian dollar earnings for 1998.] Beverages and based in Vienna. Dividing Coca-Cola Amatil into two parts should help results, anamarket because of concerns over the Asian economic picture.

"There was a lot on their plate there," Jennifer Solomon of Salomon Brothers Inc., said. "It's hard to watch Kiev from Sydney."
The move raises to 10 from nine

the number of "anchor bottlers" publicly traded companies in which Coca-Cola retains a large stake.

John Sicher, publisher of Beverage Digest, said the split-up was intended to improve focus and efficiency. "Amatil became too geographically far-flung to manage," he said,

Neville Isdell, the head of Coca-Cola Europe who resigned from the Agence France-Presse reported from leading candidate to become president of Coca-Cola, becomes the that Asian currency turmoil would chief executive of the new European

The former chief executive of trate to restaurants and other con-Coca-Cola Amatil, Norb Cole, will cessions, will run Coca-Cola lysts said. The company's stock bas leave the company. David Kennedy. Amatil, as the Asian business will falleo sharpty on the Australian the head of Coca-Cola's U.S. founcontinue to be known.

U.S. TV Lifts News Corp.

tain business, which sells concen-

television from SYDNEY - News Corp. said largely from the U.S.-based Fox

Thursday that strong revenue Television Station Group. from U.S. television operations belped lift its net profit to 895 million Australian dollars (\$615) million) in the six months ended Dec. 31 from 690 million dollars a year earlier.

The media and entertainment company controlled by Rupert Murdoch said sales rose to 8.94 billion dollars from 7.06 billion

the company's financial year, were underpinned by a more than cent to close at 9.24 dollars. doubling of operating income

But News Corp, said operating income at its Filmed Entertainment unit fell to 144 million dollars from 202 million dollars a

Profit at the company's British newspaper operations rose 10 percent, while profit at Australian newspapers rose 16 percent. However, News Corp.'s Asian satellite broadcaster STAR TV The results, for the first half of continued to lose money.

News Corp. shares rose 2.4 per-

(Reuters, AFX)

Very briefly:

 Bankers Trust Co. of the United States is preparing to scale back its operations in the Asia-Pacific region, but the overhaul is not likely result in "radical" resource cuts or job losses, a source close to the company said. The company employs around 1,500 people in the region.

 PT Ciputra Development, one of Indonesia's largest housing and office developers, halted payment on about \$250 million in debt because of the country's currency turmoil.

 Japan's Liberal Democratic Party is considering creating a fund to purchase real-estate loans repackaged into securities. The planned fund would be financed by financial institutions without government subsidies. Meanwhile, Kiichi Miyazawa, a former prime minister, said a "bold" tax cut through changes in the tax system should be considered as the Japanese economy languished, Kyodo news agency reported.

 Japanese police arrested a corporate extortionist for allegedly receiving 27 million yen (\$218,500) from Mitsuhishi Electric Corp. and Mitsubishi Estate Co., companies that were named in a different payoff scandal three months ago.

• Hitachi Ltd. and Mitsubishi Electric Corp. will postpone a joint project with Texas Instruments Inc. of the United States to develop next-generation dynamic random-access memory chips, ciung falling chip prices and profits.

• The Thailand Rice Exporters' Association said a delivery of 100,000 metric tons of rice to Indonesia was being held up by Indonesia's inability to obtain letters of credit from banks. The order, valued at about \$25 million, is equal to about 10 percent of Indonesia's rice imports last year and about 2 percent of Thailand's 1997 rice exports.

 Commerce Asset-Holding Bhd. of Malaysia received central bank permission to start talks on a merger with RHB Bank Bhd. that would create one of the country's largest banks.

 Sri Lanka's tea workers went on strike to press plantation owners for higher wages in a dispute that may further drive up the price of tea, which is already near an all-time high.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP, AFX

WorldCom Tries to Enter Japan Phone Market

anization pact to open telephone ser-WorldCom Inc. immediately took advantage of the deal by saying it had applied for a license to sell phone service

WorldCom said it planned to lay its believed to be profitable.

the right approach, the right market and the right time," said Steve Liddell, president of WorldCom Asian Pacific Ltd.

said Thursday that it also would seek a license to offer service in Japan.

its first real competitioo.

vices went into effect Thursday, and for and which BT said it would seek in the details of WorldCom's plans or in-

well as resell services over phone lines leased from Japanese companies.

WorldCom, which recently agreed to buy MCI Communications Corp. after a protracted battle with BT, plans in target

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

The WTO pact that took effect Thurs- percent of the Japanese market, will face LONDON - A World Trade Or- day was finalized about a year ago.

own fiber-optic cable network in Tokyo and spread if to other regions if they were "We know this is the right strategy,

British Telecommunications PLC

the licenses worldCom has applied

the next few weeks would allow the companies to build telephone lines, switches and other systems in Japan as

protracted battle with BT, plans in jurger international nsers initially. But Mr. Liddell said that "in a market that's not benefited from competition, there can often be huge local interest."

As part of the WTO agreement, Japan refused to allow foreign investors to own more than 20 percent of Kokusai or

Mr. Liddeli declined to comment on

vestments, but he said the company could begin offering services, mostly to financial organizations and Internet access pro-

ing the license it seeks, Nippon Tele-graph & Telephone, which controls 99.9 NTT. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

ership.
Once in the limelight, Mr.

Khumalo became a darling of

white business executives be-

cause he criticized affirmative action and put shareholder

here to run a business," he said

not long ago. "I'm not for any of this brotherhood stuff."

He was also the target of a

years down the road and

knows blacks will be man-

JCI: 2 Legendary Figures Bracket the Company's Stormy History

factors at work. First was a falling gold price, which was around \$350

Anglo America was being negotiated and hit a low of \$280 in December. Second was the premium the Khumalo group paid for JCI. The financial beaoty of most earlier "empowerment" deals was that conglomerates seeking political goodwill sold shares at a discount to black shareholders, and the discounts hered banks and the discounts have been so him for membership in the exclusive Kimberty Club, using his money to strike a blow in as lenders. What Mr. Khu-

about \$11 a share - was considered a risky bet. On Jan. 13, JCI shares hit a low of \$3.80, although they later rose to about \$5 on rumors of the breakup and his resignation. The third strike against Mr. Khumalo was his own hubris. The self-dealing with the titanium company damaged his eral of the Zulu king Shaka, credibility, as did his pen-

chant for negotiating asset

malo's group agreed to pay —

of dismemberment — the Anglo American, the English conglomerate Lonrho PLC and a Swiss metals-trading company - Mr. Khumalo is unraveling the last corporate legacy of Mr. Barnato, a sparkling, enigmatic figure in

South African history. lsaacs in London, was a cocktey music-hall magician who took his name from a cry of the crowd. As assistant to his big brother Harry, he was

making a fortune in dia-

monds

By 1889, Mr. Barnato was an ounce while the deal with Anglo America was being ne- John Rhodes's control of the John Rhodes's control of the Kimberly "Big Hole," the world's largest diamond find. He drove a hard begain for Kimberly "Big Hole," the Second was the premium He drove a hard bargain for ing his money to strike a blow against anti-Semitism, a

powerful undercurrent in South African society. Mr. Khumalo, in his own way, also highlights the complications that arise with the empowerment of a downtrod- white. den minority. His name has a powerful resonance: Mzilikazi, the most fearsome genwho cut a swath of destruction across sonthern Africa in

sales without informing his the 1820s and 1830s. As a youth, Mr. Khumalo In bringing ICI to the point joined the African National Congress's clandestine army plancalls for its mines to go to and trained in the Soviet Union. Captured in 1978, he spent 12 years in the Robben Island prison off Cape Town.

Unlike other inmates who dreamed of careers in a government under President Nelson Mandela, he has said, be lacked the politician's ability Mr. Barnato, born Barnett to make compromises, so he earned a bachelor's degree in business by mail and emerged saying that be would found a

As a provincial party treas-

Continued from Page 13

was putting its core life-insurance business up for sale.

But analysts see bigger.

called out to take bows with the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a management consultant. He management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout of "Barney, too!" and set himself up as a share, Mr. Khumalo's African management consultant. He quickly made powerful can Mining Group consortition of the shout Rosenberg, chairman of Pre-fcor Holdings, a furniture and appliance retail company, who offered bim a job.

services company. Mr.
Rosenberg helped round up
several million dollars in
loans, and Capital Alliance

was born.

Like many such enterprises, it was quickly backed creating a few new millionby large corporations. Within aires did not belp the millions two years, Capital Alliance had interests in insurance, harding more arresting a rew law manner with the millions of blacks living in poverty. In defending his disdain for banking, property manage-ment, financial consulting and asset management and was said to be worth more than \$1 billion. Its management was almost entirely

But Mr. Khumalo's real children.'

affirmative action, he bas said he wants the best brains available but also says be looks 20

agers because "white ladies aren't interested in having

Fonds Commun de Placement 11, rue Aldringen, L-1118 Luxembourg Unktholders are hereby informed that SANYO KLEINWORT SPAIN FUND MANAGEMENT S.A. (the "Management Company") acting as management company to Sanyo Kieinwort Spain Fund (the "Fund"), decided on 7" January 1998 to delete the reference to the three months section requirement for the liquidation of the Fund contained in notice requirement for the liquidation of the Fund contained in the first paragraph of article 17, of the Management

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The Management Company will proceed to the liquidation of the Fund in accordance with Luxembourg laws and regulations.

regulations.
A further notice will be published upon the closure of the The Board of Directors of SANYO KLEINWORT SPAIN FUND MANAGEMENT S.A.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Players Warn NFL

FOOTBALL The National Football League players union has in-formed the league that it is prepared to allow their labor agreement to expire after the 2000 season and not extend the deal through 2002, as the sides had been negotiating.

Gene Upshaw, president of the NFL Players Association, said the players were oot prepared to make any more concessions to the owners and would oot extend the salary cap through the life of the league's new \$17.6 hillion television deal "unless they're willing to give us something in exchange." (WP)

• Roger Headrick, the Min-

nesota Vikings president, matched author Tom Clancy's hid for the team, setting up a potential legal battle. Headrick, one of the club's 10 current owners, said his offer equals Clancy's NFL-record bid of slightly more than \$200 million that the owners accepted Tuesday. (AP)

Martin Describes his Pain

COLF Casey Martin broke down in tears as he testified in court in Oregon on Wednesday about the intense pain he feels when he walks the golf course. He said he doesn't believe riding a cart would give him an advantage over other players.

Martin, who has a rare circulatory disorder in his right leg, has invoked the Americans with Disabilities Act in his lawsnit against the PGA Tour, which says he must walk to play in its events.

No Charges for Kluivert

SOCCER An Amsterdam court has decided not to proceed with rape charges against Patrick Kluivert, a center forward for the Netherlands and AC Milan, and three of his friends, a court spokeswoman said Thursday, Dutch media said the court had dismissed the case because of lack of evidence, but the spokeswoman declined to give details of the court's ruling. (Reuters)

Canseco Joins Blue Jays

BASEBALL Jose Canseco agreed to a ooe-year contract with the Torooto Blue Jays for \$750,000, with \$2.25 million in bonuses. Canseco, 33, an ontfielder and designated hitter, made \$4,725,000 last season with Oakland. He hit 235 with 23 homers and batted in 74 runs. Shortstop Alex Gonzalez agreed to a \$1.497.500 one-year agreed to a \$1,497,500 one-year contract with Toronto. (AP) contract with Torooto.

Canadian Skater Gets A Push From Progress

Le May Doan Watches the Records Fall

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

AGANO, Japan — A techno-logical revolution occurred in speed skating last year, and Ca-triooa Le May Doan and her Canadian teammates decided not to resist the inevitable. But she had no idea that she could become the next Bonnie Blair.

In June, Le May Doan put on clap skates for the first time. The skates have a hinged toe and a heel that detaches from the blade to allow the skater fuller cootact with the ice and longer, more powerful strokes. They were a perfect fit for Le May Doan, whose style favored power over technique.

She took the skates for a test spin last October in Calgary, saw her practice time at 500 meters and hlinked. Then she asked someone to check the electronic scoring device. The clock said 38.4 seconds. Blair's world record was 38.69 seconds.

A month later, at a race in Calgary, she shattered Blair's record with a time of 37.90 seconds. In an event usually decided by hundredths of a second eight-tenths of a second might as well be

On the same day, Le May Doan set a world record of 1:16.07 at 1,000 meters. The mark has since been lowered by Chris Witty of the United States, hut Le May Doan entered the record books again at 1,500 meters with a time of 1:57.87. She has also continued to dance a limbo with the 500-meter record, lowering it to 37.55 secoods, more than a second below the mark that Blair set in

Blair is now retired and expecting a baby next summer. She is attending the Nagano Games to cheer on her husband, peed skater Dave Cruikshank. She won five Olympic gold medals, but she oever did what Le May Doan has a chance to do in Nagano - win three gold medals in the same Winter Games.

Le May Doan, who resembles an athletic Audrey Hepburn, is the daughter of an engineer and the wife of a Zamboni driver and part-time rodeo cowboy. While she possesses the heart of a champion, perhaps few athletes possess the singular drive and determinatioo that propelled Blair around a sheet of ice.

"Every athlete wants to be the best, hut I'm not an athlete who stands oo the line thinking I have to rip another athlete's heart out," Le May Doan said. Blair was a technically perfect skater

whose stroke was as seamless as Tiger Woods' golf swing. At 5 feet 7 inches (1.70 meters) and 140 pounds (63.5 kilograms), Le May Doan, a former track hurdler, has, until this season, relied more on power than finesse. She has

won medals on the World Cup circuit, so it would be wrong to say that she has come out of oowhere on the clap skates. Bot they have certainly added more horsepower to an already propulsive

"Uotil this year, I was oot a technical skater, but I think now I have a more efficient push," Le May Doan said. "Before, I had a lot of ice flying and The Americans complained bitterly

about the clap skates last season wheo they had trouble securing them from Viking, a Dutch company.

"I didn't eojoy them at the beginning,

but I stuck with them," Le May Doan said. "We had no choice. They were faster, so we made them work for us. The hig thing is to be on skates and build

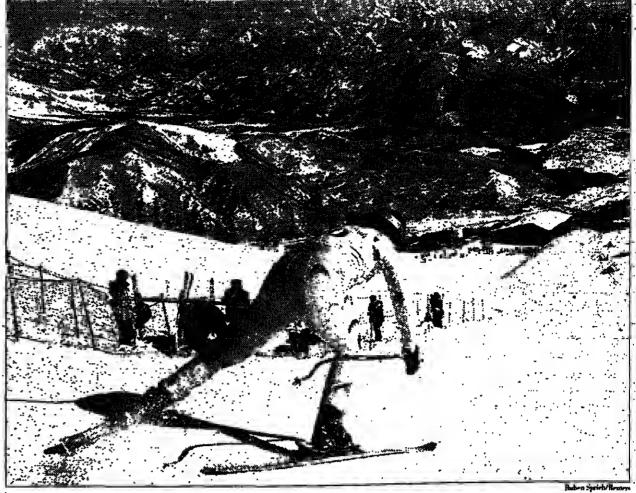
This season, Le May Doan switched to a new coach, Derrick Auch, creating a sensitive situation within the Canadian team. Detrick Auch happens to be the coach and brother of Susan Auch, who finished second to Blair at 500 meters at the 1994 Olympics and is Le May Doan's chief rival. To defuse inevitable tension, the two Auchs and Le May Doan have been seeing a sports psy-chologist. Derrick Anch has a delicate balancing act, but both skaters said their relationship had improved.

"It was difficult for Susan wheo Ca-triona started going really fast," Derrick Auch said. "But it also made Susan realize she has a chance to win a gold medal. She's the only one who's beaten Catriona.

For the first time, the men's and women's 500 meters will be cootested over two races at the Olympics, giving each skater a chance to start from both the inner and outer lane. Previously, skaters who changed from the outside lane to the tighter inside turn were coosidered to be at a disadvantage.

Four years ago, in Lillehammer, Norway, her 500-meter race ended before the lane switch when she fell in the onter lane. The comparisons with Blair she will accept, but not those to Dan Jansen. who fell at two consecutive Olympics.

People start saying; 'If you fell at one Olympics, will you fall at another?' 'Le May Doan said. "That's just supersti-tion. I'm not superstitious at all."



Markus Herrmann of Switzerland taking off at the start of a practice run for the men's Olympic downhill.

Austrians Blaze on Practice Ski Runs

HAKUBA, Japan — Two things were as clear as the bright sunshine at the Happo one ski area Thursday. The course is slow and the Austrians are fast,

Austrians had the four fastest times, and 8 of the top 13, in the first of three days of training runs for Sunday's men's downhill, the opening event and ooe of the main attractions of Olympic Alpine skiing.

Though they were the fastest, the Austrians grumbled that the course was too flat and oot challenging enough, creating the possibility that some lesser competitor could upset their skiing juggernaut. The more level the course, they said,

the more level the competition. "It's not a downhill like Kitzbuhel or Weogen. It's not that difficult," said Stephan Eberharter, who had the second-fastest training run of the day. 'It's hard to be fast, so anything can

happen here."
The first day of practice did little to dampeo Austrian expectations that the

team would dominate meo's Alpine skiing. Anstria managed just one gold and one bronze four years ago in Lillehammer, Norway. But the Austrians steam-rolled into Nagano with 22 victories in 30 events on this year's World Cup circuit, led by Hermann Maier, who has 10 victories in his first full seasoo.

Eberharter, though, warns that his countrymen may be expecting too much, especially considering the rel-atively easy course. "Here, anything can happen," he said.

Because of the intense competition within the team, most of the Austrians who were so fast Thursday will not even be entered in Sunday's race. Werner Franz, Eberharter and Maier had the three fastest times, with Hans Knaus of Austria and Peter Runggaldier of Italy tied for fourth. Austrians also finished 8th, 9th, 10th and 13th.

Franz was timed in 1 minute, 52.8 seconds, 17-hundredths of a second better than Eberharter and 47-hundredths of a second faster than Maier, a gold-medal favorite in as many as three events.

Among the Austrians, only Maier and Andreas Schifferer have automatic spots for the downhill. Maier gets his spot as leader in overall World Cup standings. Schifferer as the leader in Vorld Cup downhill points.

While skiers from other countries will be fine-tuning their strategy, the rest of the Austrians must go against each other in training runs Friday and Saturday for the final two berths.

"I feel fortunate that we doo't have to qualify like the Austrians," said Kyle Rasminssen of the United States, the first skier down the course Thursday. "I'm sure they're going to have their best runs oo Saurday, and we'll have ours oo Sunday.'

Under the demands of the International Ski Federation, Japanese organizers reluctantly added 279 feet to the top of the course, even though it encroached into a national park. That left the course a respectable 2.1 miles. But the vertical drop is a mere 3,025 feet, far less than the steep courses of Europe where speeds are much faster.

Kenyan Team Trades Track for Skiing Trail

two-man Kenyan cross-coun- in Kenya for skating and try ski team — the African hockey.
nation's first Winter Boit's
Olympics entry — hit minutes Nagano on Thursday like visiting rock stars. They signed autographs and posed for pic-

tures, smiling broadly.

'Oh no, we don't have snow in Kenya," said Philip Boit, a former runner who swapped his sneakers for cross-country skis. He said that he first saw snow only two years ago.
Boit and Henry Bitok were

runners uotil 1995, when their Mikc Kosgei, wondered if their running skills might translate into cross-country skiing success. The runners were intrigued, and received their first taste of skiing in a training trip to Finland in February 1996. Two years later, Boit is competing in the Olympics and Bitok is his back-up.

"This is the beginning," said Charles Mukora, chair-

skiing. And we hope, NAGANO, Japan - The someday, somebody will be

> Boit's best time is 10 minutes behind that of the world's fastest cross-country skier, Bjorn Dachlie of Nor-

While the Kenyans' odd quest quickly grabbed attentioo in Nagano, their effort is oot entirely an exercise in national pride. They are sponsored by a major sneaker company; the Kenyan team's press attaché is a soeaker company employee who has never been to Kenya.

Asked if he was getting more financial support from the Kenyan government or the shoe company, Boit smiled. "There are some questions," he said, which I have to say oo."

■ IOC Elects 2 Princes

Nine new members were voted onto the Internacional Olympic Committee on Thursday including two more man of the Kenyan Olympic princes, the Prince of Orange



Henry Bitok, left, and Philip Boit enjoying celebrity.

especially well-stocked with Liechtenstein, and Infanta Pi-members of royalty," said larde Borbon, the sister of the Francois Carrard, director-general of the IOC. "We have The seven of

Monaco, whose family rules members to 14. only a principality. They are Princess Anne of Britain. Committee. "From now on, of the Netherlands and Prince of Saudi Arabia, Sheikh bourg, a member of the IOC yon'll see lots of Kenyans in Henri of Luxembourg. Ahmad al Fahad al Sabah of since 1946. (NYT)

"I don't think that we are Knwait, Princess Nora of

The seven other new mema rather large complement of bers included two women: regular people. But I don't see Irena Sewinska, winner of why someone should be seven Olympic medals inbarred from membership just cluding a gold in the long because they have a title."

Of 118 members of the Moutawakel Bennis of Mo-IOC, seven are official members of royal families, not Olympian in 1984. This counting Prince Albert of brings the number of families. counting Prince Albert of brings the number of female

The committee is losing ooe of its royal members, Prince Faisal Fahd Abdulaziz Grand Duke Jean of Luxem-

GAMES: Japan and World Sports Hope to Burnish Their Images

Continued from Page 1

give the United States a sweep in the Games' most popular and watched

Japan has sweep-dreams of its own. The last time Japan was host to the Games, in Sapporo in 1972, the Japanese finished oce-two-three in ski jumping. It was a remarkable feat for a nation that had won only one medal in all previous winter Games. Now the Japanese ski jumpers are the world's best once again, and stars such as Masahiko Harada, Kazuyoshi Funaki and Akiro

Higashi are hoping to repeat history.
The Nagano Olympics promise to be a
new breed of Games. Old-style European royalty will still be patrolling the party circuit, but the competitors are anything but traditional. Stars from the National Hockey League will be competing for the first time, raising television ratings and the number of millionaires competing for gold. Snowboarding joins the Games, bringing with it the clothes, language and amitude of youth. Already, the "knuckledraggers," as they are known, are re-

belling against wearing team uniforms.

Women's hockey will be a medal sport for the first ome, giving the Americans and Canadians something oew to argue about. The Nagano Games will also introduce curling as a medal event, offering new hope to cruise-ship seniors who dream of shuffleboard gold.

The competitioo in Nagano will be played out oo a stage for different from

the 1994 Atlanta Games. Nagano is smaller than many Atlanta suburbs, and what it lacks in shopping malls it makes up for in majestic snow-capped mountains and hardwood forests.

"Atlanta" is a word that organizers here say with disdain, and they have been ruthlessly rooting out all signs of the overfed commercialism, and the swirling, shouting crush of T-shirt and soda hawkers that marred Atlanta.

Many Nagano streets are lined with small flags touting Visa, IBM, Coca-Cola or other major sponsors, but the city has remained remarkably free of schlock. Nagano has built new hotels, a new train station with a McDonald's at each entrance, and oew office buildings with hoge video screens overlooking downtown squares.

But the city retains the unique charm of urban Japan: crossing signals chirp to pedestrians in a high, female voice when it is safe to cross and taxi drivers wear white gloves. Peoplewear surgical masks when they walk around town. Some wear them to preveot spreading germs; others wear them to keep germs out. Either way, the look has been stop-

ping foreigners in their tracks all week. CBS, the U.S. television network, has 1,700 employees in Nagano covering the events — oearly a quarter of the 8,000-member global press corps here. The network has erected a studio tower on the sacred grounds of the 1,400-yearold Zenkoji Temple.

and the Games in Nagano will be a celebration of both. High-tech innovations include a computerized system to control traffic that will allow cars carrying athletes and other VIPs to zip though lights. Many shops have been . equipped with two-way video telephones staffed by translators working in three . languages. Microphones have been embedded in the ice to help TV viewers hear the hockey and skating events better.

Many of the 1.1 million spectators expected in Nagano will stay in traditional Japanese inns, where they will find themselves leaving their shoes at the door, sleeping on futons on the tatami mat floors and eating a hreakfast of pickles and raw fish and miso soup while sitting cross-legged on the floor.

In Saturday's opening ceremony, sumo wrestlers in their traditional silk aprons will lead the parade of athletes before a crowd of 50,000 people that will include kings and queens and Emperor Akihito of Japan, the current ruler in the world's loogest unbroken family monarchy, which dates its founding from 2,600 years ago.

The Japanese figure skater Midori Ito, a silver medalist in the 1992 Olympics in Albertville, France, will light the Olympic flame. The Japanese take great pride in their Olympic champinns and feel intense shame when they do not succeed. And success is relative. When Ito returned to Japan after winning her silver, she went on television, bowed Japan is a unique mix of old and new, and apologized for failing to win gold.

Sean Maloney, INF Mike Kinkade, INF San Hogo Perez, DF Scott Krouse and OF Geof

NATIONAL POOTBALL LEAGUE
CARCILIA—Numed Gil Huskell oftensive coordinator. Walved TiE Ray Seals and LB Remoldo Turmbull.
INDIAMAPOLIS—Released OB Densin Gray, Til. Jason Matthews, OB Justin Belt. 5 David Tote. Til. Kipp Victers. OL Eugene Chung and Til. Derek West. Announced the retirement of DB Darinon Wolts. Names Kevin Spencer special teams cooch.

57. Louis—Reassigned Mike White from tight ends cooch to quarherbacks cooch. Named Lynn States light ends cooch. Referred Jeny Rhome, offensive coordinator, as quarherbacks cooch.

SEATTLE—Named Jim Johnson linebackers cooch.

SCOREBOARD BASKETBALL

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Boker 16-22 9-12 41, Schrenpf 8-15 8-10 24. Rebounds—Indiano 47 (Smits 11), Sentile 57 (Raker 11), Assists—Indiano 23 (Jackson 14), Seottle 24 (Payton 14),
Portional 24 18 32 41—115
2.A. Latters 37 27 36 28—122
P. Brunson 6-8 5-6 19, Sabonia 7-14 3-4 17;
Latters: Jones 10-18 4-6 28. Bryant 6-10 12-13
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Lokers 47 (S.Chedi 10), Assists—Portional
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NHL STANDINGS LASTERN COMPERSIVES

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(Turgean, Pellerin) Second Period: None.
Third Period: T-D.King 11 (Yushkevich) (pp).
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Editeritor U U U U-e First Period: S.J.-Marieau 10 (Friesen, Rathle) 2 S.J.-Burr 3 (Ricci) Second Period: S.J.-Maffecu B (MocLean, Craven) Third Period: Nane, Stats on good: 5.J.-6-13-0—19, E- 47-10—21. Godies: S.J.-Vernon, E-First Periad: A-Rucchin 9 (Socco, Selonne) 2, New York, Graves 17 (Sweeney, Oriver) 3, A-Selonne 40 (Drury, Karpa) Second Petiod: A-Selonne 41 (Curtien) 5, New

York, Stowens 12 (Sundstrom, Gretzky) Third Period: None. Shots on gook New York 14-16-13—43. A: 11-11-4—26. Goodless: New York Clouter. A-Hebert. CRICKET Offisher 0 0 0 5—8
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N.J.-Sykern 12 (Arnoth) Shorts on god: 0-3-79—19, N.J.- 6-10-9—25. Godfes: O-Rhodes. West indies vs. England Second Test, first day at tea Thursday in port of spain, trindal

SOCCER

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PRINCH PIRST DIVISION IMP 2. Toulouse 0

STANDINGS: Costa Rica 3 points, United itates 3, Cuba 0.

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at TANDINGTE: Marsellle, Metz 47, Mora-co, Lens 46; Paris 51 Germain 44; Lyon 35; Auxerre, Bordeaux 37, Bastia 36; Mantpellier 33: Nomes 32: Havie 29: Toulouse 28; Guisgam 27; Rennes 24; Strasbourg, Chateauxax 23; Cannes 22.

ENGLISH FA CUP FOURTH ROUND REPLAY

CONCACAF GOLD CUP GROUP TWO CO 4. Trinidod and Tobago 2

and Tobage 3, Hendures 6, GROUP THRISE Costa Rica 7, Cuba 2

GS: Mexico 3 pol

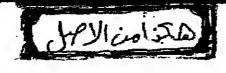
MX NATION TOURNAMENT

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TRANSITIONS AMERICAN LEAGUE

N Geoff Sanderson. DALLAS—Assigned II Dan Keczmer 10 Michigan IHL
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New Driegne ECHL
Frederic

Chabot to Houston, IHL. PHOENIX—Recol pringfield, AHL signed LW Dave Roberts and Il Chod Alien to Syrocate, AHL



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SPORTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6.164 Stars Beat Flyers as **Turek Gets** A Shutout The Associated Press

Roman Turek replaced the injured Ed Belfour in the Dallas goal but it made little difference to the Stars, who beat the Philadelphia Flyers, 1-0.

Turek, who is 27 hut playing his first full National Hockey League season,

NHL ROUNDUP

stopped 26 shots for his first career shittent as the Stars, who top the NHL standings, beat last season's losing Stanley Cup finalists. Turek started because Belfour, who has seven shutouts this season, has a sore back.

Turek won for the eighth time this season to extend the Flyers' losing streak to four - their longest since March 26-31, 1994.

Islanders 4, Canadiens 2 Bryan Smolinski broke a tie at 10:48 of the third period as New York extended its unneaten streak to five games.

Devils 2, Senators 0 Martin Brodeur made 19 saves behind a tough New Jersey defense as the Devils shut out the Senators for the second time in three

Bay's club-record 13-game losing streak ended, but the Lightning hlew a two-goal lead and had to settle for a tie at

the men's Olympic downhill

e Ski Runs

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March ...

Maple Leafs 3, Blues 2 Fredrik Modin scored the winning goal with 6:25 left in the third period as Toronto ended a fourgame losing streak with a victory over visiting St. Louis.

Penguins 2, Capitals 2 Andrew Brunetie scored with 5:51 left in the third period as visiting Washington tied Pitts-burgh, thanks to a 34-save effort by Olaf

Bruins 2, Sabres 2 Michael Peca scored off a rebound with 1:20 left in regulation as Buffalo extended its unbeaten streak to seven games with a victory over visiting Boston. Sharks 3, Oilers 9 Mike Vernon made

21 saves for his fourth shutout of the season as San Jose won at Edmonton. Mighty Ducks 3, Rangers 2 Teemn Selanne increased his league-leading goal total to 41 with his second consecutive two-goal game, He also had an assist as Anaheim beat New York.

Rule Changes Backed

NHL general managers have backed seven rule changes — including the elimination of the red line at center ice - to speed games and create more scoring. The Washington Post reported.
The general managers cannot imple-

ment changes, only recommend them to team owners. Who will meet in June. In addition, the league will examine three areas after the Olympic break: goal-tenders' equipment, a second referee and obstruction infractions.

Six changes will be tested in the minor leagues the rest of this season to see if they should be recommended: Moving the net out another one to three feet (30 to 90 centimeters); Not allowing the goalie to handle the puck behind the net; hurry-up faceoffs; banning line changes in the neutral zone; not allowing the puck carrier to stop behind his own oct; requiring players who com-mit minor penalties to serve the full two



Two Utah Jazz veterans, John Stockton, with the ball, and Karl Malone, right, catching Randy Brown of the Chicago Bulls in a classic pick.

Jazz Sweep the Bulls; SuperSonics March On

The NBA championship was not on the line this time. Still, the Utah Jazz took great satisfaction in sweeping the Chicago Bulls.

The Jazz, who lost a six-game series to the Bulls in last year's NBA Finals,

NBA ROUNDUP

completed a two-game, regular-seasoo sweep of Chicago with a 101-93 victory Wednesday night.

"We've been very ready to play these guys this year," said John Stockton, who had 17 points and 18 assists for the

Karl Malone scored 30 points for Utah. which overcame a 24-point first-half deficit to become the first team to sweep a season series from the Bulls in three ears. The Jazz won their first meeting. 10I-94, in Chicago on Jan. 25. Michael Jordan led the Bulls with 40

points, but he didn't get much support. Ron Harper, who scored-14, was the only other Chicago player in double figures.

After the game, Jordan repeated his position that he would not play for the Bills tiext year unless Phil Jackson returned as coach. Since Chicago's general manager, Jerry Krause, made it clear Wednesday that Jackson would not be back and since Jordan does not want to play for another team, it appeared that this

would be Jordan's last season.
"If Phil is out, then this is my last year," Jordan said. "I won't play. I'll retire. It is that simple."

SuperSenics 104, Pacers 97 In Seattle, Vin Baker tied his career high with 41 points as the Sonics snapped Indiana's seven-game winning streak. The Sonics improved their NBA-best record to 37-10. The Pacers have the

best record in the East at 33-13.

Lakers 122. Trail Blazers 115 in Incle wood, California, Eddle Jones scored 28 points, and Los Angeles had four players with 20 or more points for the third straight game.

Kobe Bryant added 26 points, Nick Van Exel 23 and Shaquille O'Neal 21 for Los Angeles. Celtics 110, Mavericks 99 In Boston,

Dee Brown hit six 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and scored a season-high points as the Celtics handed Dallas 19th consecutive road loss.

Heat 98, 76ers 84 In Philadelphia. Alonzo Mourning had 19 points and 15 rebounds as Miami handed the 76ers their seventh straight loss.

Wizards 104, Cavaliers 88 In Washington, reserve Tracy Murray scored 24 points and Juwan Howard had 22 points and 13 rebounds as the Wizards won their third straight. Timberwolves 95, Knicks 88 In Min-neapolis, Stephon Marbury had 29 points and 10 assists as Minnesota stopped New

York. The Wolves snapped a three-game losing streak and handed the Knicks their fifth loss in six games. Kings 101, Nuggets 99 In Denver. Much Richmond scored 32

cluding four free throws in the final 12 seconds, as Sacramento ended a sixgame road losing streak.

■ Carlesimo Tesitifes

P.J. Carlesimo, the Goldeo State Warriors' coach, testified for seven hours Wednesday in the hearings over the suspensioo from basketball of Latrell Sprewell, the former Golden State player, The Associated Press re-ported from New York. Sprewell was suspended after attacking Carlesimo during practice on Dec. 1. The coach's testimony was the longest of any the 18 witnesses who have been questioned.

Memories of Manchester's Babes

Crash in 1958 Destroyed a Team, Created a Legend, and Left a Debt:

By Rob Hughes International Herald Tribune

ONDON - The police witness expertly described the scene after ✓a terrible event that 40 years ago destroyed, yet made, Manchester United.

"When they brought them home," said Constable Tom Potter, "the streets were crowded but there was hardly a sound. All you heard were the wheels on the road, and grown men crying. The coffins were takeo into a small gymnasium used as a chapel of rest, and two
of us were locked inside the stadium for what was a long night.'

The policeman never got over his vigil over the remains of the Manchester United players who, with team officials and sportswriters, perished in a twin-engined British European Airways plane that crashed on its third attempt to take off in snow, slush and ice at Munich airport. The charter flight had stopped to refuel oo the way home from United's successful European Cup quarter final

against Red Star in Belgrade.

Mr. Potter spoke this week on a
Granada TV reconstruction of the day the "Bushy Babes," United's emerging

young team, was destroyed
"We couldn't wait to go home in the
morning and forget it," he recalled. "But I could never forget. All night long, I smelled the fresh varnish of those coffins, and to this day, that smell brings it back."

Millions remember where they were when, at 3:06 on the afternoon of Feb. 6, 1958, arguably the finest, most glamorous team in the world went down. Today there are Manchester United supporter clubs in 157 countries. The parent cluh is an institution, a financial giant worth \$650 million, again with rising. youthful, trendy players.

Many people ask how United came to

transcend language and culture around the globe. Torino never truly recovered after greatest team was in a plane that hit a nountain in 1949, killing 18 players.
The answer might start with television.

In 1949 it hardly existed, by 1958 it could transmit grainy images from Munich, obsceoely rich.

images of heroic survival and compas-sionate care in the casualty ward where Matt Busby, the father of this team, and such players as Bobby Charlton were nursed back to competitive living. Above all, there was the indomitable Bushy who rebuilt a team to conquer Europe a decade later, just as postwar he raised United out of the rubble of a bombed Old Trafford Stadium.

When the policeman, the survivors, the widows, the children, gather at Manchester Cathedral in remembrance on Friday, the spirit of the late Sir Matt will be with them. I, for ooe, will never forget his words: "Before that terrible day, I could see 10 years ahead, 10 years at the top with nothing to stop us," he said. "After it, I had two choices. I could either lie down and hide, or pick myself

up and accept the challenge."

Before he could pick up those threads, Bushy had watched Duocan Edwards, the player he was convinced would mature into the most powerful in world sport, slowly surrender to his wounds. For 15 days, Edwards battled, calling out to ask the kickoff time of the next match against the Wolverhampton Wanderers. When, finally, he died, Edwards joined the seven lost in the wreckage — Geoff Bent, Roger Byrne, Eddie Coleman, Mark Jones, David Pegg, Tommy Taylor and Billy Whelan.

They, and others who returned diminished or oever able to perform again, were young gods, but not like today's instant heroes. Where David Beckham, a player of marvelous potential, is a model Mancunian millionaire — betrothed to a Spice Girl and earning \$30,000 a game, plus a million dollar Adidas endorsement and more than a million from Brylcream - some survivors of Munich are sick and in oeed. During their aborted star-dom the top weekly wage for soccer players was £15 (about \$40 at the time).

Those survivors had something the modern players will never experience: a unity shared with fans of similar means and lifestyle. They were "ordinary, yet they built a legacy from which the cluh and its new generation grow almost

There will be a minute's silence at Old Trafford before Saturday's game. against Bolton Wanderers: Wreaths will be laid on the center circle. Later this. month, there will be a testimonial match. that will fill the satdium to its 55,000seat capacity. Eric Cantooa, who left the cluh a year ago, will come back to play in that. Eric is still some kind of a hero. though the boys in red have not missed his flair on the field this season.

ARRY Gregg, who with a true goalkeeper's bravery went back into the wreckage to rescue a bahy, then to pull out her mother, the wife of a Yugoslav attaché given a lift to London, will also return with his.

memories and regreis.

'Looking back,' he muses, 'we should oever have got on that plane three times. But it takes a very brave man to be a coward." United fought BEA's insurers for compensation for "loss of players, loss of potential transfer fees, loss of gate money, loss of prestige." The cluh received £35,000, less than the price of Beckham's recently flaunted engagement ring

cently flaunted engagement ring.

If he and his teammates think deeply they may realize that the standards of this mighty club, as well as the global affection it attracts, were created by the class of '58. Some of those died, some are silently struggling against disabilities and lack of a deceot pension. The deht owed to those men, and to the bereaved, could be met by United donating into a trust fund the proceeds of a single game a year - or the starlets of today giving a thousand dollars, small change to them, off their weekly salary.

While the cluh capitalizes on the feelings so many have toward it, those who suffered for their association with the legend have all but been laid to rest, "You know, I never told Duncan he was great," said the mother of Duncan Edwards oo the TV documentary, "hut he was. I never told him I loved him, but I did,"

So, Mrs. Edwards, did whole generations of soccer watchers. Rob Hughes is on the staff of The

Korean Leader Questions Building Stadiums

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SEOUL - Kim Dae Jung, the president-elect of South Korea, called Thursday for a review of plans to huild stadiums for the 2002 World Cup in view of the country's economic crisis.

'Do we actually need to invest trillions of won to build 10 stadiums while our economy is in trouble under the International Monetary Fund pro-gram?" an official of Mr. Kim's transition committee quoted the president-

elect as asking the committee. South Korea is the co-host for the mais in 2002, along with Japan, the to Korean cities due to stage matches are Seoul, Pusan, Daegu, Kwangju, Ulsan, Taejon, Inchon, Suwon, Chonju and

Seogwipo.

It will cost an enormous amount of

mooey to administer the facilities after the eveot, "Mr. Kim said. Mr. Kim has ordered the committee to study ways to use existing facilities

instead of huilding oew ones.
Choi Chang Shin, secretary-general of the Korean World Cup Organizing Committee, said an estimated 2 trillion won (\$1.25 billion) would be needed to

huild the stadiums. We fully understand the ecocomic have studied the best way to cut cost and to maximize effectiveness," he said. We have no alternatives but to build

situation that the country faces, and we

new ones to meet the requirements set by FIFA," an official at Chonju's City

WORLD SOCCER

Hall said. He said the existing facility there had only 28,000 seats, while the soccer federation's requirements said it should have 40,000.

South Korea had planned to spend an estimated 240 hillion won to huild a stadium in Seoul for the opening cer-

emony of the World Cup. "Japan is investing a lot of money to huild a state-of-the-art stadium for the World Cup final," Mr. Choi said.

"Why should we hold the opening event in a modified stadium? It will hurt our national pride." ENGLAND Juergen Klinsmann, the

German international forward, was knocked out and broke his jaw as Tottenham Hotspur lost, 3-1, to Barnsley in an English FA Cup replay Wednesday. Klinsmann, the captain of the German national team, visited a specialist Thursday. He will be out of action for at least a month. In Newcastle, Alan Shearer scored

twice with headers as Newcastle United of the Premier League beat the semiprofessional Stevenage Borough, 2-1. in a replay. Shearer, playing his first home game of the season after an injury, scored in the 16th minute on a disputed goal that may not have crossed the line and got another goal early in the second half.

GOLD CUP In Oakland, California, "I believe Kim's concerns are about Mexico gained its first victory under idad and Tohago, 4-2, in the Concacaf tournament.

Luis Hernandez scored twice, and Francisco Palencia and Ramon Ramirez also scored for Mexico. Lapueote took over from Bora Milutinovic in Decem-

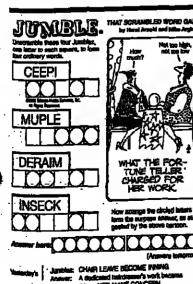
Mexico plays Honduras oo Saturday in the final Group 2 match and can qualify for the semifinals with a draw. In the first match of the doubleheader,. Paulo Wanchope scored four goals as-Costa Rica beat Cuha, 7-2, in Group 3. Costa Rica now can reach the semifinals hy drawing with the United States in the

final group match Saturday.

DENNIS THE MENACE



"YOU WERE RIGHT, MONL IT WAS GOOD, AND IT DIDN'T KILL ME."



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I'LL HAVE A HAMBURGER, FRIES AND A CHOCOLATE

BEETLE BAILEY

DRINK?

WELL, IT'S 5:00, I'M OFF TO THE

CLUB FOR A

DRINK

BLONDIE

HAVEN'T I I CAN LET YOU HAVE EEN A (THIS ONE AT A GREAT





WHY DO YOU TALK **SINGULAR**

HOW

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE, GARFIELD?

WHEN YOU MEAN

PLURAL?

BECAUSE THIS COO-L





ONE OF THOSE BOXES, RIGHT NEXT TO M4 BED!

LOOK! IF YOU GUYS WANT TO BE ENGLISH TEACHERS,

OOC 00C?

I CAN ARRANGE IT!











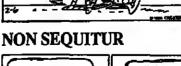
CALVIN AND HOBBES





















THERE'S BEEN

DOONESBURY

WHAT

DOES IT SAY





POSTCARD

The Windsor Party

By William L. Hamilton

New York is playing house. For a preview exhibition for the nine-day sale of the collection of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, which begins Feb. 19, Sotheby's has created seven decorated room settings, closely modeled on the salon, dining room, library, bedroom suite and entrance hall of the Windsors' Louis XVI-style residence on the Bois de Boulogne in Paris. The rooms will open to the public on Tuesday and re-main on view through the

The rooms provide an unusually personal context for the more than 3,000 lots — Beach, Florida, advised which include furniture, ac-Sotheby's on the setting of the cessories, art and clothing.

The interiors will occupy both of Sotheby's display floors. "Because each session basically covers one room in the original bonse, we are setting the preview up along the same lines," said Matthew Weigman, a senior vice president.

Sotheby's worked with Ralph Appelbaum Associates, the SoHo design firm that created the exhibition for the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis sale in April 1996, to

Schoenberg Archive

VIENNA — The unpacking of 60,000 objects and manuscripts belonging to the estate of Arnold Schoenberg began Thursday. The Schoenberg archive, transferred from the Arnold Schoenberg Institute in Los Angeles to the composer's birthplace, will be housed in a new Arnold Schoenberg Center, sched-uled to open in March.

put the Windsors' 40,000 obects on display.

"We went to the house in Paris and photographed it before it was taken apart," Ap-

Walls have been suggested by banging theatrical scrims printed with photographs of walls of the actual house and scenes of the Windsors at

Several people, like the in-terior designer Mark Hampton, who wrote a chapter on the Windsors' decorator, Stephane Boudin, for his 1992 book, "Legendary Dec-orators of the 20th Century," were consulted for advice on the rooms. C.Z. Guest, a friend and frequent visitor to the Windsors' house in Palm dining table.

The seven rooms, which include the duke and duchess's private snites, will also unfold as a narrative of the Windsors' story.
Joe Friedman, a senior di-

rector of Sotheby's in Lon-don, who helped catalogue the contents of the Windsors villa when it was purchased hy Mohamed al Fayed, advised on the re-creation.

The duke's Paris bedroom suite, Friedman said, is English to the core in its furnishings, the retreat of a man who lived in the past, surrounded hy court souvenirs and memories of childhood.

This will not be the first time the Windsors' residence has been re-created. The sale, originally scheduled for September of last year, was canceled the day before its preview began because of the death of al Fayed's son, Dodi, in the car accident that also killed Diana, Princess of

In Basel, Art Triumphs Over Architecture

By Michael Kimmelman
New York Times Service

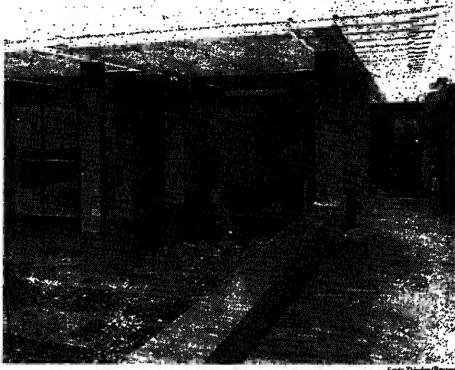
BASEL, Switzerland — What is the most B satisfying new art museum building? I haven't seen LM. Pei's Miho Museum of Art near Kyoto, Japan, but one could argue that the answer is neither Frank Gehry's Gug-genheim in Bilbao, Spain, nor Richard Mei-er's Getty in Los Angeles but the less ballyhooed Fondation Beyeler here.

Comparing this modest-size building, which Renzo Piano has designed, with big projects like the Guggenheim Bilbao or the Getty is tricky and imprecise. The Beyeler, which opened in October, might fit into one of the galleries Gehry created in Bilbao. The Guggenheim, brilliant in its way, is clearly more spectacular. But what makes Piano's museum special is precisely that it is NOT spectacular, or at least it is not meant to be a spectacle: It consists of 20 spare white rooms of an almost ethereal simplicity, arranged within a long rectangular shed or pavilion.

For once, the architecture of a museum is in the service of the art. Of course, architecture people and art people tend to see such things differently. To understand the full sig-nificance of the building, it helps to remember how much museum construction in the last 40 years, roughly since Frank Lloyd Wright's Gnggenheim opened in New York City, has tended in the opposite direction from the Beyeler.

Wright's landmark, openly hostile to much of the art it was huilt to display, continues to attract millions of tourists regardless of the art on view, a fact that has not gone unnoticed by museum officials elsewhere, who dream of their own Guggenheims. They say signature buildings will entice visitors and patrons who will contribute money and art to improve the col-

The reality has often been that patrons give money for new buildings or to add wings to existing buildings because they can chisel their names onto them. The art comes later, if at all. Meier's High Museum of Art in Atlanta is an example: An explicit bomage to Wright's Guggenheim, it caused the desired stir in architectural circles when it opened in 1983 but has been a poor place in which to see art. And despite the efforts of its director and curators, the trustees still haven't added a great deal of art worth seeing to the col-



The new art-friendly museum of the Fondation Beyeler in Basel.

come to precede art and sometimes even to a famous example. But he bas also designed fashionable opinion (fashionable among ar-in which the lighting, heating elements and chitects) that museum architecture shouldn't other possible intrusions on the geometry of be a neutral backdrop, that because art is the rooms are mostly made invisible: disabout risk and experimentation, the space it inhabits should be risky too.

One result is Peter Eisenman's Wexner Center for the Arts on the campus of Ohio State University in Columbus, a fascinating architectural idea, a catastrophe in practical terms because of its willfully eccentric gal-

The Fondation Beyeler is a response to this trend. No more exquisite museum of modern art has come into existence since the Menil Collection opened in Houston in 1987, a building also designed by Piano. He is, of course, known for vast, venturesome projects

replace it as an attraction. Add to this the spaces for art that are spare modernist cubes

cretion is their technological feat. This building is partly modeled after tho Menil, with results even more elegant. Tucked into the leafy suburb of Riehen, a trolley ride from the center of the city, the museum houses the collection of Ernst Beyeler, the Swiss art dealer, and his wife, Hildy. Only about 150 works are on view; a highly refined group of paintings, sculptures and drawings by Degas, Cezanno, Picasso, Matisse, Mondrian, Leger, Giacometti. The list goes on.

Born in Basel in 1921, Beyeler began course, known for vast, venturesome projects work in a secondhand bookstore and print that stretch the limits of technology and often shop. He mounted his first show, of Japanese Too often, in other words, architecture has celebrate it: The Pompidou Center in Paris is woodcuts, in 1947. Now he is Europe's it is also the softest-spoken.

preeminent dealer in modern art. About 10 years ago he and his wife got the idea to create a museum of their collection. They found a graceful spot in a park in Richen, made an arrangement with the city and under the auspices of the foundation paid roughly \$40 million to realize Piano's plan.

I suspect that if you polled museum directors and curators, who spend so much of their time planning blockbuster exhibitious and lobbying for ever-bigger museum buildings, the majority would say their favorite unseums are intimate, out-of-the-way places like this one. Partly it's a natural, contrarian response ("Sure, Taillevent is a contrarian response ("Sure, Taillevent is a great Paris restaurant hut there's this liftle neighborhood bistro in the 20th arrondissement..."). But it's also that small museum are more manageable than the Louvre or the Metropolitan, and quirkier, less predictable.

The Beyelers have been collecting African and Oceanic sculpture, and in the mnseum they bave juxtaposed Fang reliquary figures, for example, with paintings by Rousseau and Miro and Klee to suggest formal kinships across cultures. This sort of idiosyncratic presentation, a throwback to-prewar displays that linked modern with socalled primitive art, gives the Fondation Beyeler a distinct character.

The general feeling is also of openness and simplicity. Glass walls provide occasional views of the park, with a long glass-enclosed veranda facing a field that stretches to Germany.

Even the museum's below-ground gal-lery, a notoriously difficult sort of space (see the Museum of Modern Art's lugubrious basement rooms), succeeds because Piano has given it a large, glassed-in stairwell that lets natural light in.

The museum's director, Markus Brueder-lin, says Beyeler may tinker with the col-lection: He can exchange what's on view for other works of at least comparable quality the judgments to be made by the founda-tion's board, which, conveniently for Beyeler, he heads.

The public benefit may eventually be to weed out some of the more generic art from the last 30 years, the only weak link in the collection. The early material could hardly be improved on: a room of Giacomettis, another of Picassos, each a capsule homage to an artist Beyeler knew.

Given so much great art, Piano has proved.

that the most eloquent space in which to put





declined to press charges. Meanwhile, the instigator of the prank, who was not caught, said he was thrilled at the sight of the Microsoft chairman standing on a Brussels sidewalk "as if boiled to the ground, wiping cream off his glasses and face. Noel Godin is known in Belgium as an entarteur, someone who throws pies in famous people's faces. "Our secret," Godin said on Belgian television, "is our number. There are about 30 of us and we operate in very small groups."

Former Prime Minister Charles Haughey has been voted one of Ireland's sexiest men at the age of 73. Haughey appeared beside the actors Liam Neeson, Aldan Quinn and Gabriel Byrne and the film director Neil Jordan in a poll carried in Duhlin's Evening Herald. The line-up also included Larry Mullan, drummer with the pop group U2, and Ronan r with Boyzone. The five fen who compiled the list for a women's magazine called Social & Personal identified 'brains and a healthy bank balance' as two essential criteria.

Oueen Elizabeth is to lease a helicopter from a private THE LADY AND THE CAMEL — Kathleen Elms company instead of using two RAF helicopters to save about racing her camel in Woodend, Australia, where efforts are being made to recruit female camel jockeys. Palace announced. Tho British company Air Hanson has been

THE Brussels police released a man and a woman who awarded a 10-year helicopter contract with a U.S.-built Sikor- award for their screenplay. Damon and Affleck already have threw a cream pie in Bill Gates's face, saying Gates had sky S-76, which is faster and considered more reliable than the won the Golden Globe for their screenplay. Other nominations in the aging RAF Wessex helicopters that have been in continuous royal service since 1969. The Sikorsky was chosen on the advice of Prince Andrew, an experienced helicopter pilot who flew with the Koyai Navy ouring the Fatklands war. The palace was quick to say the deal was on cost grounds and not a snub to the Royal Air Force.

Matt Damon and Ben Affleck, the writers of "Good Will Hunting," are in the running for a Writers Guild of America

Charges in Mermaid Vandalism

Reuters OPENHAGEN - A free-lance television camerafor 13 days pending a police investigation into charges

that he decapitated Copenhagen's Little Mermaid statue. Michael Forsmark Poulsen, who was the first to film the stame after it was vandalized a month ago, was formally charged at a closed-court session with causing malicious

damage to public property. He pleaded not guilty. He was arrested at the unveiling Wednesday of the restored Little Mermaid on her waterfront rock.

same category — best screenplay written directly for the screen — are "Titanic," by James Cameron; "As Good As It Gets." screenplay hy Mark Andrus and James L. Brooks, story by

Anorus; "Boogie Nignis, by Paul I nomas Anderson, and "The Full Monty" by Simon Beaufoy. In the category for best screenplay based on material previously published or produced, the contenders are: "The Ice Storm," James Schamus; "Donnie Brasco," Paul Attanasio; "L.A. Confidential," Brian Helgeland and Curtis Hanson; "Wag the Dog," Hilary Henkin and David Mamet, and "The Wings of the Dove," Hossein Amini. The prizes will be awarded on Feb. 21.

Paul Newman was so taken with the scenery of the Chesapeake Bay area, which he visited on his vacation, that it may be the background of a film. Newman, Kevin Costner and Robin it Penn Will begin shooting their new movie in a Bottle," in April, perhaps on Tangier Island off the Eastern Shore of the bay in Maryland. "I play the bottle," Newman joked in The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk. While Newman wouldn't confirm details about set location, he said he and his wife, the actress Joanne Woodward, were thrilled with the area when they visited last year. "It was one of the most beautiful areas of the country I've seen." Newman said. "We recommended the area to Kevin." Cape Cod in Massachusetts and the Outer Banks of North Carolina are also being considered.





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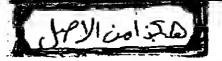




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